



## Jaguar workers vote to strike

By Barrie Clement  
Labour Reporter

Workers at the newly and profitably privatized Jaguar car company yesterday voted to strike from next Thursday in support of a £25 a week pay rise.

The company said that would deal a massive blow to its financial performance and jeopardize its growing share of the United States luxury car market.

Management insisted that there was no question of the company being forced into a higher offer.

Union leaders claimed the 22 per cent offer was a two years worth about 14 per cent in new money and would not allow the 7,000 workers to share in the company's success.

But management said the workers were the highest paid in the motor industry and the offer would keep them top of the league.

Meanwhile, Austin Rover appealed to its 28,000 workers to vote against industrial action.

## NUJ says bingo is illegal

Bingo games run by newspapers are illegal, according to advice obtained by the National Union of Journalists, which has received council's opinion that games contravene the 1976 Lotteries Act. Sympathetic MPs have agreed to raise the matter with the Attorney General and the Director of Public Prosecutions in England and the Lord Advocate in Scotland.

If the games were declared illegal newspapers could face criminal prosecution if they continued to use them.

## Unions talk on technology

Officials of the National Union of Journalists yesterday met representatives of the National Graphical Association and detailed their objections to a proposed new technology deal.

Under the NGA men at the Portsmouth News would be given jobs as sub-editors. The NUG threatened that if the deal was ratified, the NUJ would urge its chapels to negotiate deals to by-pass work traditionally done by NGA members.

## Pensions talks

Talks aimed at ending the pensions strike at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, now in its twenty-fourth week, are to resume again today amid signs that useful progress is being made. The Department of Health and Social Security said last night after negotiations in Newcastle.

## Aslef wait

Judgment was reserved in the High Court yesterday on a claim by the train drivers' union, Aslef, which seeks compensation for drivers suffering from nervous shock caused by suicides and other railway trespassers.

## Voted down

A left-wing move to delay the return of trade unions to the National Economic Development Council was narrowly defeated at a meeting of the TUC General Council yesterday.

# Labour Cabinet is blamed for DeLorean debacle

By Richard Evans, Lobby Reporter

The blame for the ill-fated DeLorean sports car project, which lost more than £70m of taxpayers' money in four years, was yesterday laid squarely on Cabinet ministers in the last Labour government.

In spite of repeated and grave warnings about the risks involved, Mr Roy Mason, then Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, and his colleagues gave permission for the venture in 1978: a mistake which could not happen now, a memorandum from the province's department of finance and personnel said.

The memorandum is the Government's official response to the critical report published in July by the powerful Commons Public Committee, which said that the DeLorean project was "one of the gravest cases of the misuse of public resources for many years."

Mr Mason, who is not named in the memorandum, hoped that the car project in west Belfast would ease some of the area's acute political, social, economic and security difficulties.

Although John DeLorean's plans were described as "an extraordinarily risky venture" with "remote" chances of success by independent assessors in July 1978, the Government supported the project in principle less than three weeks later.

"The then government decided as a matter of policy that the potential economic and social benefits justified taking the risks," the memorandum adds.

Mr DeLorean contributed slightly more than £500,000 to the car plant, but ministers believed that there were "positive factors" which justified pumping millions of pounds from public funds into a private company controlled by an American. "Since this was the only basis on which the project could be secured."

The memo adds: "Government policy has since changed. A project such as DeLorean would not be supported. Industrial support is made available only for projects in which substantial part of the financial resources is provided by the private sector."

"The lessons of the DeLorean experience have been learned and changes made to reflect this."

But the government reply, presented to Parliament by Mr Douglas Hurd, the new Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, implicitly absolves the team of officials which negotiated the DeLorean deal.

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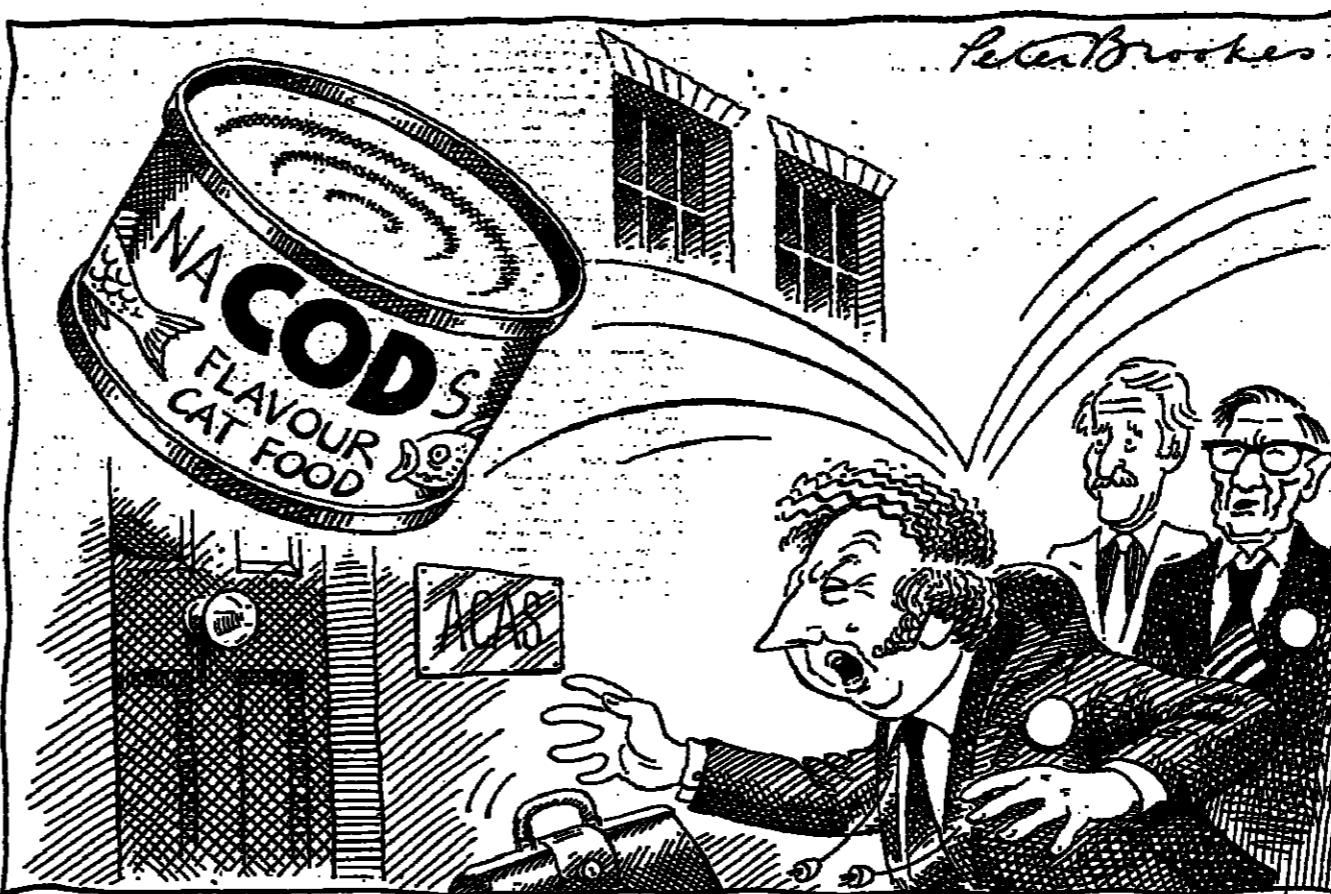
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The miners' strike

## Moves today to seize assets

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

New High Court moves will be made today to seize the assets of the National Union of Mineworkers after the expiry at midnight last night of the deadline for payment of the £200,000 fine imposed for contempt of court.

Lawyers for the two Yorkshire miners who brought the contempt proceedings will apply before Mr Justice Nicholls for leave for the issuing of writs of sequestration.

The City firm of chartered accountants, Price Waterhouse, has agreed to act as Commissioners of Sequestration if the judge agrees to the writs and would act to seize the assets as soon as possible.

The same firm handled the sequestration of the assets of the South Wales area of the NUM when it failed to pay a £50,000 contempt fine at the beginning of August.

Mr Justice Nicholls imposed the £200,000 fine and one of

£1,000 on the miners' president Mr Arthur Scargill, 14 days ago for breach of injunctions granted to the two Yorkshire miners. Those were aimed at preventing the union or its officials declaring the Yorkshire area strike official and from threatening to discipline miners who crossed picket lines.

Since the strike began £15 a week has been deducted from supplementary benefit to miners' families on the assumption that they are receiving strike pay, although no strike pay is provided by the union.

If the miners' funds are seized, he said, "the government can no longer continue to deem striking miners to be receiving strike pay."

Mr Arthur Scargill and miners' union leaders were yesterday preparing for a seige of the union headquarters in Sheffield. Mr Scargill's wife arrived at the NUM headquarters and began unloading a car load of food.

Pit villages, page 5

Leading article, page 19

## 'No Scargill surcharge' on fuel bills

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The Government has not decided to add the £500m cost of the miners' strike to electricity bills, as a "Scargill surcharge". Mr Peter Walker, the Secretary of State for Energy, said yesterday.

"The cost has still to be calculated. There have been increased costs because of oil burning but there have been savings - £700m planned investment in the coal industry has not been made."

Mr Walker stepped up the Government's energy conservation campaign with a speech to 1,500 company directors in London, calling on them to appoint energy managers and take advantage of government aid.

"If Britain had done as well as some of our competitors we would be spending one billion pounds a year less on energy."

As previously stated, the board are very ready to re-examine the Review Procedure and to adopt any amendments which will improve its effectiveness. The association will appreciate of course that this must be done in a way which will meet with the approval of all the parties concerned, including NUM and BACM.

The board believe that the procedure as it stands is unique and is something that we should all make work. This will, of course, require the active effort of all the parties, not just that of management.

You clearly are concerned that the arrangements should work, so that at local colliery level, as well as area level, an early and continuing understanding of the prospects of the pit concerned. We believe our plans should be readily understood and updated in the form of five-year plans reflecting both market and production opportunities. We believe that if this is done it should remove the fear you have that actions will be taken covertly which would shorten the life expectancy of a pit without reaching an understanding among all the parties concerned.

Given that this is done we would expect that there should not be conflict over investment or other decisions; however, such conflict arises, that could be dealt with from that early stage within the Review Procedure so that all parties could be given ample time to brief themselves adequately.

It at the end of this process, the matter was still in conflict and might lead to a foreshortening of a colliery's life expectancy, this question has already happened in the past, can be referred for national consideration and, indeed, would then be subject to the Review Body and full weight given to its findings, just as would be the case in any question of a distinct closure proposal.

As Mr Jones observed this morning, the essence of this will be seen in the future but you may be assured of the board's intent to obtain an arrangement satisfactory to both parties.

Supervision of Work in Cavities - the Hammond Case

As previously stated by the board to you, we reaffirm that it is our intention that it should be operated constructively and fairly at all times and at all levels of management.

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## President at ease among the French

President Mitterrand, who told our Paris Correspondent in yesterday's interview that "History is made by its actors" yesterday proved a worthy successor to President Reagan in treading the boards at the Palace of Westminster.

The French President gave every appearance of being quite at home in the Royal Gallery of the House of Lords. The room is ridiculously over-ornamented in what Britons take to be the Gothic (or, more particularly, French) manner, but is full of images that should make a patriotic Frenchman squirm. Pictures of Trafalgar and Waterloo celebrate our ancient enemies, and the gilded statue close behind the President's right shoulder was that of Henry V, the victor of Agincourt.

The President successfully affected not to notice. He was greeted by Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone the Lord Chancellor, wearing a sumptuous outfit that in France would be reserved for the principal officer of some grand in the food trade. The French love dressing up, as was evidenced by the vivid informality of the press corps, who had blithely ignored the dress rules (dress suit) for the occasion.

Lord Hailsham set out to make the French President (who dressed up as an Englishman) comfortable by improving the historical context. He referred to Asterix the Gaul. He did even better mentioning pheasants.

This was obviously intended to appeal to the Frenchman in the President who is a foodie among statesmen.

Lord Hailsham, having talked about English mispronunciation of French, which he called Frenchish, rounded off in a French of his own, liberally larded with the word "Vive".

The warm-up man having done his stuff, the President rose. It must be an actor's greatest fear that when he speaks his lines he does not carry his audience with him. President Mitterrand overcame it with unflappable aplomb. He spoke in French.

After some dozen sentences there was a little shuffling of feet. To the horror of many in the audience, who had seen the interpreter's microphone tested for sound, the interpreter, crouching low, crept across the stage and went out of the door.

At this awful moment it dawned on us that the interpreter's microphones were not going to be used.

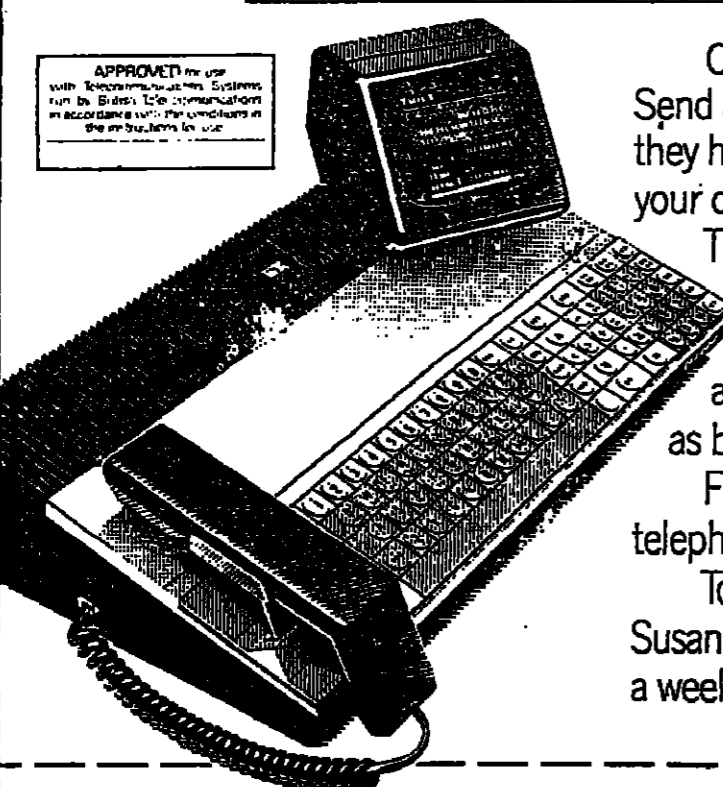
President Mitterrand orated confidently on. At 12.14 he made a little joke, about the Mother of Parliaments. If the Lord Chancellor had said if the audience would have burst their sides. As it was, they did not move a muscle. The President undismayed, brought in Locke, Montesquieu and Voltaire. Not many laughs there.

The President continued as if he held the audience in the palm of his elegantly waving hand. For all his words conveyed as most of those listening, he might as well have come from the famous French school of mime, but when he reached his peroration he made it recognizable by twice repeating the magic word: "Vive". He got his standing ovation.

The Speaker rose to give thanks. "We have just heard a speech which re-affirmed the long-standing friendship between our two nations," he said firmly, and risked no more.

Robin Young

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## Medical tribunal says NHS should pay for anti-smoking chewing gum

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

The National Health Service should pay for the anti-smoking chewing gum, Nicorette, which is available only on prescription, a medical tribunal has decided.

The ruling, which overturns the efforts of Mr Norman Fowler to stop family doctors prescribing the chewing gum on the NHS, could cost £20m a year.

Moreover, the Treasury could lose many more millions of pounds from the lost tax revenue from people who successfully "kicked the habit".

The chewing gum concerned is said to be more than twice as effective as other anti-smoking treatments.

But since the ingredients have clear pharmacological properties, or in other words they behave like a drug, the chewing gum is a prescription-only product.

However, the substance is

not classified officially as a medicine.

But Nicorette is the sole prescription-only product which is not on the NHS drugs tariff, and hence can be offered as a course of treatment only on a private basis. It costs about £7 for two weeks' supply, against the standard prescription charge of £1.60 for each course of treatment.

The issue has been brought to a head by several doctors, who prescribed a course of treatment under the NHS for patients among whom nicotine dependence was regarded as a serious medical problem.

The chewing gum was issued by pharmacists to the patients. Subsequently, the prescriptions were picked up by the Prescription Pricing Authority for referral to the local Family Practitioner Committee for disciplinary action. The GPs could have the

cost of the prescriptions withheld from their payments.

On appeal to the DHS, the issue was referred to a medical tribunal last June, at which a lawyer and two doctors heard evidence from the GPs and from the DHS.

The decision given yesterday in writing from the tribunal said: "We find the expert evidence is all one way".

The expert witness was Dr Mike Russell of the Maudsley Hospital, London, who has conducted one of the main trials on the efficacy of the chewing gum.

One of the four GPs involved was not making an appeal against the DHS.

In the case of Dr Chris Steele, from Manchester, the appeal was being made by Mr Norman Fowler for the tribunal to reverse previous decisions made in favour of the doctor.

## Help for parents of glue sniffers

By Nicholas Timmins and Colin Hughes

A leaflet for parents telling them how to spot and cope with glue sniffing among children is being sent to health authorities, and a national network of "helplines" is being launched.

The leaflet, which will be available through health and local authorities, tells parents to look for a chemical smell on the breath or unexplained traces of glue or other solvents on clothes or body.

Soreness or redness round the eyes, persistent irritability, slurred speech, moody behaviour and a sudden decline in school performance could also be signs of glue sniffing, the leaflet says.

The leaflet says: "For most youngsters it is a passing phase, but for some it can become a dangerous habit".

Boredom can lead to sniffing,

the leaflet says and involvement in youth clubs and sports can be encouraged.

The national network of "helplines" and advice for young glue-sniffers and heroin addicts is among projects being launched in Britain as part of International Youth Year.

A pilot scheme of telephone guidance from young volunteers backed up with expert adult support has already been set up in South London by the National Youth Assembly.

At the launch of the year in London yesterday, Miss Janice Smith, who chairs the national organising committee, said she hoped the scheme could raise up to £500,000 over the year to set up similar "helplines" in every big town and region.

## Accused man sickened by torture news, jury told

One of the three men alleged to have tortured Mr Harry Tiplie, a London newspaperman, and cut off one of his toes, were the next day when he realized what they had done, a detective told the Central Criminal Court in London yesterday.

Edward Mitchell, aged 28, was physically sick, and started to cry after he heard of the news of the attack on Mr Tiplie, aged 59, and his wife, Cicely, aged 56, the jury was told.

When interviewed by detectives, Mr Mitchell said he had not thought himself capable of doing what was inflicted on the couple at their home in

Pockham Park Road, Peckham, south London, on the night of February 13.

Mr Mitchell, of Primrose House, Peckham Hill Street, Peckham, is on trial with Terence Bradford, aged 23, of Carillade House, Saint Leonard's Road, Poplar, east London; and his brother Charles Bradford, aged 24, of Glengall Road, Peckham.

All three deny assaulting the couple, causing them grievous bodily harm, and additionally wounding Mrs Tiplie with intent to do her grievous bodily harm.

The trial continues today.

## Hot pursuit in 10-ton digger

It was a scene that owed more to the Keystone Kops than to Stargate and Hitch.

One minute Mr Jack Jones was using his huge mechanical digger to clear sand which had blown up against the foreshore at Swansea.

The next his mighty machine had scooped up a breathless police sergeant and a constable who ordered him to follow a man running along the beach.

With the two determined lawmen crouching in the bucket, the digger reached its top speed of 10mph as it advanced on the fugitive.

When the digger was level with the man, the two law officers leapt out of the bucket and made their arrest. But as Mr Jones watched in horror the 10-ton digger sank deeper and deeper into the sand.

His efforts to free it were fruitless and soon the tide came in and submerged it. Last night, after a five-hour rescue operation, Mr Terry Owens, head of the company which owns the digger, said: "We have been landed with a repair bill at least £6,000."

The digger had been hired by Swansea City Council to clear sand which had blown against the sea wall.

Police, who said a man was later questioned about a theft, added that they had been "helped by a member of the public who happened to have with him a JCB".

## Theatre guide

A regional theatre guide has been launched by Oracle, the teletext service of independent television.

## Thames profits from strike

By David Hewson

Thames Television expects to save £750,000 a week in wages to 1,000 technicians striking over the introduction of lightweight cameras.

Managers are putting out a makeshift service of entertainment programmes which, they believe, are attracting more viewers than normal. Its advertising schedules are also full and expected to meet the £3.5m target.

One executive said yesterday: "We can hold out longer than the National Coal Board. We don't have to put out current affairs or documentary programmes which don't at-

tract viewers, and we've enough material in the building to last until Christmas. I've never seen a management so angry and united."

The technicians' union, The Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians, had not expected Thames to attempt to break the blackout caused by the strike, the first commercial company to do so. Yesterday, its general secretary, Mr Alan Sapper, complained to the Independent Broadcasting Authority about the schedules, which Thames has agreed with the IBA.

"Thames is mounting a programme service that is

ignoring its franchise responsibility."

No talks are planned, though informal contacts have been maintained, partly through the Independent Television Contractors' Association.

Thames denies that it is making a stand to break new ground over technology for the rest of the commercial network. The union says it is willing to use a new lightweight camera, but not for them to be used to drastically reduce manning.

Yesterday, around 35 Thames executives arrived early in the morning to supervise production. At the Euston Road headquarters, nicknamed "Fort Euston", they assembled commercial breaks, and in the afternoon about 15, five less than demanded for with union, supervised the output through a link with the Post Office tower.

Thames had feared that the link might be blacked by Post Office engineers, and was prepared to go to court to end action which could have been regarded as secondary.

On the picket line, there is agreement that the dispute is the most bitter since the strike which closed down the commercial network for 10 weeks in 1979.

Thames executives are also discussing a news service. Among their ranks are former Fleet Street journalists who could read bulletins from Press Association tapes. The news service could be maintained even if Thames's 80 journalists who belong to the National Union of Journalists, accede to a request from Mr Sapper not to cross picket lines.

The union's headquarters advised journalists to obey the call yesterday.

Thames executives, however, privately acknowledge that the film editors whose case started the strike have a genuine grievance about their position in the complex pay structure. They earn between £13,000 and £19,000 a year, less than dubbing mixers and video editors.

The highest paid ACTT members are producer/directors, who earn between £30,000 and £34,000 a year.

This year Thames gave its staff 10 per cent of their salaries after record pre-tax profits of £13.2m, compared with £8.8m the previous year.

## BBC's value 'proved' by bombing coverage

By Our Arts Correspondent

BBC television coverage of the Brighton bombing was cited as evidence that the corporation was not profligate by Mr Alan Protheroe, its assistant director-general.

The BBC, which had 300 staff in Brighton for the Conservative Party conference, was able to offer live coverage of the aftermath, while TV-am had no crews there.

Mr Protheroe said the corporation's success was proof that its critics did not understand the needs of a large broadcasting organization.

The BBC team broadcast more than 28 hours of network television and four hours of national radio from Brighton. 1½ hours on the World Service also 21 hours in 32 languages, and coverage on regional television and radio.

"It is that investment in resources and people to meet the requirement of round-the-clock broadcasting that enabled the BBC on radio and television to produce coverage of the Brighton bomb in such depth, in such detail, and with such speed and skill."

"It was an essential requirement of public service journalism to report fully and accurately. It was coverage acclaimed around the world for the way it showed what terrorism and its consequences are."

"It showed the courage of the Prime Minister, Cabinet ministers, firemen, policemen and



Mr Protheroe: "Coverage acclaimed around the world".

ordinary people. It revealed, with compassion and care, the bravery of Norman Tebbit. The concept of public service broadcasting, funded by the public at the will of Parliament, was vindicated again between 6.30 and 9.00 am on Friday, October 12, 1984."

If the corporation was forced to accept advertising, the whole concept of public service broadcasting would be negated, Mr Protheroe said. Prime-time current affairs and arts programmes would disappear.

Attempts to intimidate cameramen and reporters by police and pickets during the miners' strike had failed. "Coverage has been difficult and demanding task, the more so because political investment and the polarization of attitudes has split the country", he said.



A goosander catching a fish under water (above) has won the Wildlife Photographer of the Year competition. It will be displayed at the Natural History Museum from today until January 4.

The pair of mollymawks (left) won second prize for Ross Giblin of Plimmerton, New Zealand.

The competition was organized by BBC Wildlife magazine, the Fauna and Flora Preservation Society, the Natural History Museum and the Prudential Assurance Company.

## Boy of 3 is awarded £30 for smack

Dion Hatfield aged three, who ran into the road and was almost knocked down, was awarded £30 compensation yesterday at Teesside Crown Court for a smack dealt him by his mother's friend, David Currie, aged 19, of Rievaulx Avenue, Billingham-on-Tees. Mr Currie, who admitted assault causing actual bodily harm, was put on probation for a year and ordered to pay the compensation at £1 a week to the boy, of Appleby Road, Billingham. It was suggested that he also buy a present.

## Wife accused

Mrs Sukhpal Kaur Gill aged 28, of Murchison Road, Leyton, east London, and Hardev Singh Grewal, who are accused of conspiring to murder Mr Harbhak Singh Gill at Denham, Buckinghamshire, were remanded in custody until November 2 by magistrates at Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire, yesterday.

## Box for sale

Enormous interest was reported yesterday in a grand-tier box at the Albert Hall which is for sale for at least £80,000. The 10-seat box is one of only three owned by descendants of the original holders, and entitles its owner to see any event at the Albert Hall.

## Woman cleared

Mrs Celia Marks, aged 34, a housewife of Devonport Street, Stepney, east London, was cleared at the Central Criminal Court yesterday of recruiting a security guard to give information to aid a £142,000 armed robbery in the City.

## Crash inquiry

The public inquiry into the Wembley Central train crash, in which three people died, on October 11, will be held at the Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool Street, London on November 9.

# Pension and allowance book problems at the D.H.S.S.

At the moment, there's a problem at the D.H.S.S. which has stopped the issue of many pension and allowance books.

We have introduced special measures to ensure that you get your money but these take a lot longer than usual.

We apologise, therefore, for the inevitable delays at your post office. However, to help keep queues down we're putting on extra staffing where we can.

Meanwhile, if at all possible, it's best to avoid Tuesday and Thursday mornings. (They're our busiest times.)

And if you really can't avoid busy times, we apologise in advance for any inconvenience.

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## PARLIAMENT October 24 1984

## Councils advised to use escape hatch

## RATE CAPPING

Time was getting short for those local authorities who felt they had been unfairly treated in the setting of rate expenditure levels. Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, warned during questions in the Commons about rate capping.

He urged such authorities to come forward. It was not too late for them to apply for re-determination of spending limits, but by the time the rate limits had been set it would be too late.

He emphasized that any authority anxious to apply for re-determination need not fear that that would allow him to interfere across the board. That was not his intention.

The House had given them the escape hatch of re-determination and they should use it.

He hoped they would as it was not the Government's intention that authorities should make cuts of anything like the 11 per cent and other figures mentioned by Labour MPs.

Mr Jenkin told Mr Frank Dobson (Holborn and St Pancras, Lab), who had asked when he next proposed meeting the chairman of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities to discuss the designations made under the Rates Act, that the AMA had not asked for such a meeting. If they did so, he would be happy to meet them.

Mr Dobson: When he announced expenditure levels for designated authorities, he gave the impression they would have to cut their expenditure by 3 or 6 per cent. Does he now accept that the average reduction that is sought from them is 11 per cent? Camden Council is expected to cut its spending by 13 per cent. Lewisham 14 per cent and Leicester 15 per cent?

Does he not accept that this is a totally monstrous deception he is trying to practise on people in these areas?

Mr Jenkin: It is nothing of the sort. Our intention is that the real spending of local authorities should be held to the same cash level next year as this year.

Of course we do not have information and the authorities are not obliged to supply information

on their use of funds and other balances and the accounting devices they may have used to reach this year's spending.

That is why the House provided an opportunity for those authorities who feel that the limit we have set was unreasonable to come along and seek a re-determination of that limit. No one has done so. I must assume from that they are perfectly prepared to live within the limit I have set.

Mr John Cartwright (Woolwich, SDP): Does he not yet understand that rate capped authorities are effectively prevented from seeking formal derogation because to do so would automatically bestow on the Secretary of State wide-ranging powers of interference in their internal affairs?

Is he willing to hold informal discussions with rate capped authorities who are anxious to show him the expenditure limits imposed on them are unreasonably harsh?

Mr Jenkin: Such informal discussions are taking place in a number of cases. I am aware of the anxiety some councillors have expressed. That is why I made it abundantly clear it is no part of this Government's intention to interfere in the detail of local authority spending.

My only concern is to set the upper limit in accordance with powers this House has conferred on the Government.

Any authority which is anxious to apply for re-determination need not fear that that will allow me to interfere across the board. They can discuss that fear. That is not my intention. And it is not too late for those who feel it is unreasonable to apply for re-determination.

Mr John Cunningham, chief Opposition spokesman on the environment: It is not dishonest of him to say he did not have information from local authorities about their expenditure from balances and resources? Was not such information given to him by authorities in the normal returns sent to his department? Was not that what he admitted to the AMA conference at Doncaster?

His statement to the House that cuts in budgets of 5 per cent were all that were required is patently dishonest. The average cut being

required by local authorities is of the order of 10 to 11 per cent. Why does he not come clean and admit it?

Mr Jenkin: My officials do not have the details of the use of funds and balances and other accounting devices which are used by local authorities to arrive at this year's budget. We do not have a complete picture.

I am sure it was right to start from the published figures. I am sure it was right to say it was our intention they should spend no more next year than the same cash sum they are spending this year. Of course, because of the use of balances - and many authorities have made it clear that that is how they arrived at this year's figure - it may well be appropriate for them to come and apply for re-determination.

This House has given them that escape hatch. It will be upon them and the communities they serve if they fail to use it and fill themselves having to make bigger cuts than we ever intended.

They have it in their power to come along and ask and I hope they will do that because it is not our intention they should make cuts of anything like the figure he has mentioned.

He added later: I cannot, in compliance with the law, rule out for all time that the power might be used in a wider sense, but for the moment I cannot see any circumstances in which I would want to use the power more widely than that.

I hope that authorities who feel they have been unfairly treated in this setting of the limit will exercise the power. Time is getting short. We

Countryside Act hint

Mr William Waldegrave, Under Secretary for the Environment, defended the Wildlife and Country-side Act in the Commons at question time but agreed that it needed improvement.

Dr David Clark, an Opposition spokesman on the environment, said parts of the 1981 Act had turned the countryside into a disaster area. Why had the Government not accepted Labour's

repeated offers to help it with remedial legislation?

Mr Waldegrave: It would be wrong to blame the Act. Had it not been there the damage would have been much greater.

I accept what Dr Clark says, that it is necessary to make improvements in the Act, and I am grateful for his offer of help which we might shortly take up.



Cunningham: Statement is patently dishonest

will have to set the rate limits, but that time, I suspect, it will be too late.

Replying to Mr Peter Brabine (Leicester East, C) he said: The law is on the statute book and the procedures will be applied. If Leicester do not apply for re-determination a rate will be set which will be relevant to the expenditure limit we have fixed for them. The rates in Leicester will be lower than they have been.

Mr Jack Straw, an Opposition spokesman on the environment (Blackburn, Lab): Such is the breakdown of trust between Labour and Conservative authorities and his department that in the absence of a categorical assurance that he will not impose conditions or lower limits authorities are scared about making application to him.

Is it not time the Government plucked up courage and decided to stand up to the Lord's Day Observance Society who represent no more than one-tenth of one per cent of the population?

Lady Trumpington: Certain relaxations have been made in Scotland and the Secretary of State for Scotland, Mr George Younger, has announced a survey is to be undertaken on the workings of the Scottish legislation.

We will want to see the results and evaluate carefully the effect of the extension of licensing hours in Scotland before deciding whether similar relaxations should be introduced in England and Wales.

Many people believe our opening hours are too restrictive and we receive many representations in favour of greater flexibility of hours, particularly from those in the catering, leisure, tourist and licensing trades.

On the other hand, others are deeply concerned about the problem of alcohol misuse and are worried that longer hours may lead to increased alcohol consumption.

## Calls for flexible drinking laws

## HOUSE OF LORDS

The Government is to study a survey being made on the effects of changes to the licensing laws in Scotland before coming to any decision on the future of licensing legislation in England and Wales, although there were no immediate plans for change, Lady Trumpington, a Government spokesman, said during question time in the House of Lords.

Asked if the Government would introduce legislation to liberalise or repeal the licensing laws and the Sunday observance laws, she said: The view taken by successive governments has been that this is a matter more suitable for a private member's Bill rather than government legislation.

We therefore have no plans of our own for legislation. As for the law on the licensing laws, there is no immediate prospect of legislation.

Lord Mowlem (Ind): Is it not time the licensing laws in England and Wales were brought into line with the more liberal laws that apply in Scotland and have caused no difficulty over the past seven years?

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## Britain to provide cash and food to help starving in Ethiopia

## FAMINE RELIEF

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, told the Commons that the Government had pledged an extra £5m plus more than 6,000 tonnes of surplus food stocks to help the famine victims in Ethiopia and other African countries hit by drought.

Following his statement on the EEC Foreign Affairs Council, Sir Geoffrey Howe, replying to a call for help from Mr Edward Taylor (Southend East, C), announced that the Government would be calling on other EEC governments to provide further substantial help from the emergency provision of the European development fund and this year's European community food aid programmes.

He said: The Ethiopian problem is only one aspect, albeit a particularly tragic one, of the general problem of drought and famine in Africa and elsewhere. However, we propose to make a further major contribution.

We are urging our colleagues in Europe (the added) the need for further substantial contributions from the emergency provision of the European development fund and this year's European community food aid programmes.

I must warn the House however of the difficulties in getting help to those who need it.

Mr James Spicer (West Dorset, C) said the famine problem was a logistical one of getting supplies to the right places. He called for the setting up of a EEC standing logistics team to deal with such problems.

Sir Geoffrey Howe said in his statement that considerable progress had been made in the negotiations on the 'package' of food and financial aid for January 1, 1985.

He reiterated that Britain's willingness to participate in inter-

governmental agreement to provide £10,000m of supplementary finance to cover the EEC's inescapable financial obligations for 1984 depended on both the release of the UK refunds for 1983 and the achievement of a satisfactory text on budget discipline.

The Irish Presidency was now conducting further consultations with a view to reaching final agreement on measures to implement the Fontainebleau principles on budget discipline at an early meeting of the Council of Ministers.

On October 10 the European Parliament voted to release the UK's refunds amounting to £440m. Ninety per cent of gross refund - £396m - was due to be paid to the

may take the view that it is an odd way of going about enforcing financial discipline in the EEC to offer Brussels even more money to spend.

Sir Geoffrey Howe said Britain had made clear in the negotiations that Parliament would have to agree the additional finance.

We have the said made clear throughout that we were prepared to consider the financing of the inescapable obligations of the Community once all possible savings had been found and provided that other issues were also resolved.

The threatened budget overrun for 1984 was originally 2,300m ecu. That has been reduced as a result of negotiations during the summer to less than half that, to 1,000m ecu.

We agreed to contribute a share of the residual sum provided the 1983 refund was released, as it has been, and provided agreement was reached on a text on budget discipline.

Mr Nicholas Winterlow (Macclesfield, C): His statement will not be universally welcomed on this side of the House. The British farmer is a sacrificial lamb on the altar of the European budget. His prospect has been unjustly deprived of an order for three 748s from the Leeward Islands because of the intrigue of the French Commissioner and the accession of Spain and Portugal can lead to a grotesque increase in unemployment in this country.

Sir Geoffrey Howe: The changes taking place in the CAP are changes intended to take place and are taking place throughout the Community. Of course they involve hardship and change and sacrifice for farmers of different kinds but they are inevitable.

It is not correct to conclude that enlargement offers the prospect of mass unemployment. It offers the prospect of a large and increasingly free access to the Spanish market, so far as it is protected.

When Parliament (the said) is invited to give its approval to this supplementary finance some of us

will be in the course of the next few days.

Mr Robin Cook, Opposition spokesman on EEC affairs, said the reason the rebate was being paid was because the Government had agreed to 'new' conditions imposed by the European Parliament when it blocked the rebate in July. The Government had submitted to a whip-round for additional expenditure in the 1984 budget.

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## GLC ABOLITION

People had been fed a 'tissue of lies' at taxpayers' expense in the propaganda campaign waged against abolition of the Greater London Council and the metropolitan councils, Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, said during questions in the Commons.

He claimed there was widespread support for the abolition and turned down a request for an inquiry into the Government's proposals, as setting no purpose.

Replying to Mr Robert Wareing (Liverpool, West Derby, Lab), who had asked how discussions were going on abolition, Mr Jenkin said some bodies were still refusing to take part in talks. They would only have themselves to blame if they did not like what was decided, he added.

Mr Wareing: In the light of his recent announcement that he will be setting up two inquiries into local government, why does he continue to ignore the call for an independent inquiry into finance and structure?

Mr Jenkin: An inquiry into abolition would not serve any purpose. There is widespread support for the abolition of the GLC and the metropolitan councils. We are confident this is the right course to pursue.

Mr John Heddle (Mid Staffordshire, C): The by-elections inspired by Mr Livingstone and his cohorts were an expensive and meaningless sham and the turnout was ludicrously low.

Abolition will not return control to Whitehall but to the directly elected borough councils who are much more responsive to the needs and wishes of the ratepayers.

Mr Jenkin: I agree that the manufactured by-elections were an

expensive stunt. The GLC campaign was a propaganda campaign founded upon falsehoods.

Mr Simon Hughes (Southwark and Bermondsey, C): There may be some support but there is wide-

spread concern that the details of abolition have not been thought out or argued through.

There is a case for a separate local inquiry with local councils and the public at the first time, making a contribution.

Mr Jenkin: I disagree. It will now be put forward for debate in this House and the Lords when the Bill is introduced, hopefully early in the next session of Parliament.

Dr John Cunningham, chief Opposition spokesman on the environment: Can he honestly tell the House that there is overwhelming support in London and the metropolitan areas for the Government's policy? Is not the reverse the truth?

And is there not an overwhelming burden of evidence against what the Government is proposing?

Who has he consented to hold an inquiry into local government finance where a few months ago his colleague said that such an inquiry would be of no value at all?

Mr Jenkin: Dr Cunningham has been urging an inquiry, so I hope that he welcomes the announcement of an inquiry into local government finance.

There is widespread support, particularly amongst those who follow local government affairs. The public have been fed with a tissue of lies at the taxpayers' expense by the propaganda spread across the newspapers and the radio. It is not surprising if some have been a little misled.

Mr Kevin McNamara, an Opposition spokesman on the environment and disarmament, said the Bill gave the Government a blank cheque to do what it wished. To suggest that there would be proper parliamentary scrutiny of the details had been taken was nonsense because there was no proper method to do this.

Mr Paddy Ashdown (Yeovil, L) said it was no exaggeration to say the nation's defence was tied to this Bill. What the Government was attempting to do at this point was less than an abject ministerial power and no less than showing scant disregard and even scorn for the Commons. He and the Liberals would be voting in favour of the amendment.

The amendment was rejected by 258 votes to 189 - Government majority, 69.

## Extended BST would not save coal

Extending British Summer Time with the idea of conserving energy during the mining dispute would not increase consumption, Lady Trumpington, a Government spokesman, said in the House of Lords.

To change all the time clocks in the installations would mean visiting every home, she said, and the board had estimated the cost at around £6m. The extension would also mean children going to school in the dark.

## Thames crossing

The public inquiry into the East London river crossing is to open next summer, Mrs Lynne Chalker, Minister of Transport, said in a Commons written reply.

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## Impact of oil and gas projects

Oil and gas development on shore will not be allowed to proceed unless the proposals are environmentally acceptable, Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister for Local Government, said during Commons questions about the oilfield at Wytch Farm, Dorset.

The question was raised by Mr Archie Kirkwood (Roxburgh and Berwickshire, L) who asked for a statement on the environmental implications of the Wytch Farm development.

Mr Baker said he understood that BP's proposals were currently subject to consultation with interested parties, and a planning application was expected in due course.

I am well aware of the sensitive environmental issues raised by these proposals (he said) and would expect them to be subject to rigorous scrutiny by Dorset County Council in the first instance.

Mr Kirkwood: I appreciate the national importance of the sensitive site ecology Wytch Farm. Will he use his good offices to require BP, if it does not have the measure of the needs of the situation, to undertake a hydrological survey of Poole Harbour and an ecological survey of the area.

Mr Baker: In the first instance that must be a matter for Dorset County Council in the light of the policies of their approved structure plan. Widespread consultation is going on and I pay tribute to the restrictions Dorset County Council has imposed on the first development at Wytch Farm which have made it environmentally acceptable.

Mr John Ward (Poole, C) asked Mr Baker to bear in mind the need to protect the environmental safety of Poole Harbour, which was not only a commercial and leisure centre but a source of income for local fishermen.

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## Hurd may relax Ulster towns security in drive for 'normality'

From Richard Ford, Belfast

The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland is considering signing an order which would enable a major relaxation of security measures in Northern Ireland's towns and cities.

By signing the order, Mr Douglas Hurd would be signalling a further step along the Government's long-term road of trying to return the province as returning slowly to 'normality' and encouraging investment.

If Mr Hurd agrees, the proposals will allow for the removal of controlled zones, in which parking is forbidden in many towns unless passengers are in a car, and of security barriers outside Belfast. Such security measures have been in force since the early 1970s when terrorist car bombs wrought havoc in commercial centres across the province.

However, they would only be

relaxed or removed completely on the advice of local police commanders but relaxation has occurred already in Belfast where the searching which used to take place on entering the city centre has all but ended.

However, Mr Hurd is understood to be extremely cautious in his approach to the matter, though security sources say that if the order is signed the relaxation could take place over a wide area within a matter of months.

Already the anti-car bomb controls have been lifted in Londonderry although it is understood they were not supposed to be until November 1 and police officers are reluctant to discuss the drift of policy in public for fear of attracting the attention of terrorists who might alter their tactics and begin bombings in

commercial areas once more.

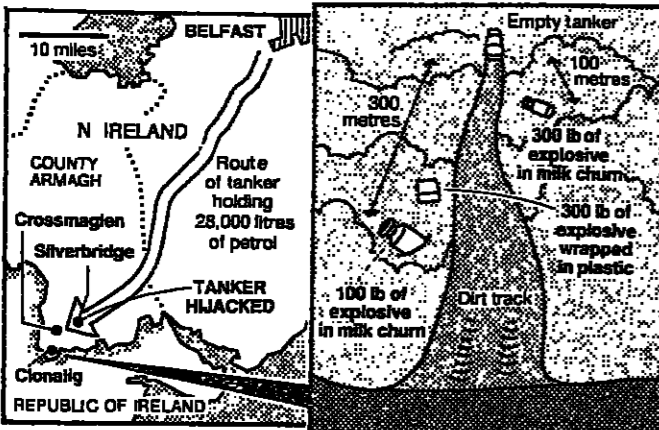
Throughout the province generally there is now a more relaxed attitude and Belfast is crowded with shoppers at weekends with new shops opening in the city centre which is still surrounded by 8-ft high security barriers.

In smaller towns it is thought that controls could be removed almost completely as long as normal parking restrictions were strictly enforced. But even if there is relaxation many stores will keep their own security guards because they believe customers feel more at ease.

The real worry for the Government is that the terrorists may alter their tactics which because they have not involved bombs in commercial areas have enabled the Government to say there has been a return to normality.

In a recent article in a Dublin-based magazine a Republican source said that Belfast City Centre was now being advertised as a marvellous big shopping centre.

Security sources feared that this could be a hint that terrorists might attack the city centre and certainly there has been an increased police presence in the area as the nights have become darker.



## Six-day operation to foil booby-trap

An elaborate Provisional IRA attempt to blow up soldiers with a triple booby-trap landmine has been foiled in one of the largest operations by army bomb disposal experts in Northern Ireland for many years.

Terrorists used a hijacked petrol tanker abandoned in the dangerous south Armagh borderland as bait, hoping to lure soldiers to their death by planting three huge hidden landmines near the vehicle. Army bomb disposal experts worked for six days in the 'handit country' near Crossmaglen to defuse the 700 lb triple bomb.

The carefully planned plot to kill members of the security forces began 10 days ago when the Provisional IRA hijacked a Shell petrol tanker taking 28,000 litres of fuel from Belfast to Crossmaglen.

The tanker was hijacked at Silverbridge, and left in an isolated cul-de-sac off a cross-border road at Clonallig, a few miles from Crossmaglen. The Army spent several days photographing the tanker from the air before moving in seven days ago with several teams of bomb disposal men.

Police on both sides of the border were in contact with each other, closing roads and evacuating families from their homes in case of explosions.

Terrorists packed 100 lb of

home-made explosives into a milk churn and dug it into the ground about 300 yards from the abandoned tanker. A few yards away, they then planted a 300 lb device wrapped in plastic, expecting that as soldiers began to defuse the first bomb they would trigger the second one.

About 100 yards from the tanker, and further along the lane, security forces found another milk churn packed with 300 lb of explosives, with 20 lb of shrapnel built around it. None of the devices, dug into the ground and hidden by undergrowth, was linked to the tanker, which had been emptied of its valuable fuel.

Huge landmines are a popular weapon for the Provisionals. Some are operated by remote control as vehicles pass over them; others explode when touched, or when a plate is stepped on.

A police spokesman described the devices as 'fiendish', adding that anyone approaching on the road could have been blown up. It was only the expertise and courage of the bomb disposal men which undoubtedly saved many lives. The operation was the longest of its kind for several years.

The Provisional IRA in Crossmaglen admitted responsibility for the elaborate trap.

## 'Snatched' photograph condemned

A senior nursing officer who had been suspended from duty was manoeuvred out of his house and a photograph of him taken without his consent, the Press Council has ruled.

The council upheld a complaint by Mr Amadeo Dell'Erario, of St Albans, Herts, that journalists from *The Review*, St Albans, used improper methods to obtain and publish a photograph of him. The newspaper was censured for an improper intrusion into his privacy.

Mr Dell'Erario had said that his doorbell had been rung and when he opened the door he was immediately pushed into the hall by a woman who identified herself as Mrs Pat Krett, a reporter.

Mrs Krett asked if he had any comment to make on the hospital report, and as he was saying no, she pushed open the front door and pushed him outside, shutting the door behind him so that she was in the house, Mr Dell'Erario said. He then discovered that a photographer standing in the street was taking his photograph.

Mr Dell'Erario told the Press Council that he did not object to the published story.

## Bleeping for the baby

By Bill Johnston, Technology Correspondent

Parents who frequently have to leave their children with babysitters are expected to be among those attracted to cheap radio-telephone pagers to be sold by W. H. Smith, the retailer chain.

The pagers, which will retail from under £100, will be stocked at first in nine London stores, and if successful will be offered in others. The pagers are made in Japan but will be operated by Inter-City Paging (ICP), one of four groups

## Acid stolen for schools' vendetta

A vendetta between two schools reached potentially horrific proportions when acid was stolen from chemistry laboratories for a gang fight.

Scores of police officers dispersed 300 fifth formers from Enfield Chase boys' school and Kingsmead boys' school from a car park in Southbury Road, Enfield, north London, during the lunch-hour on October 15. One boy aged 14 was carrying nitric acid and sodium hydroxide.

Tottenham Juvenile Court yesterday criticized teaching staff at Kingsmead school for leaving laboratories unsupervised. The boy who admitted stealing the acid and possessing it as an offensive weapon was fined £400.

Mr James Campbell, for the defence, said that the acid theft was reckless rather than malicious.

The vendetta gained momentum after the death in September of a boy killed by a car as he ran into the road to escape a rival gang. Spot checks on both schools revealed knives and other weapons. But since the police had cautioned pupils at both schools there had been no trouble.

In the United States, pagers have been sold to about 2 per cent of the population



Bleak playground: Fryston, near Castleford, one of the Yorkshire pit villages considering its future in the light of the miners' strike. Much of the housing is deteriorating and local people have complained that £1m promised to renovate it has not materialized. Photograph: Brian Harris.

Nottinghamshire mining areas									
Community	Diocese	% unemployed men (1981 figs)	Men in mining as % of total in jobs	% travelling less than 50m to work	Neighbouring collieries	Household	South	Notes	
Olton North	Newark	7.2	77	86	Olton/1,100	Owner occupied	43.7	40	
Harworth East	Bassetlaw	10.0	72	74	Harworth/1,100	Lacking bath or sharing WC	45	31.2	
Meadon	Mansfield	8.0	69	56	Walsby/1,200	More than one person per room	4.4	8.4	
Clifton	Newark	7.6	82	55	Clifton/1,300	No children	3.9	3.5	
Edwinstone	Newark	4.7	61	52	Thoresby/1,300	No working adults	62.7	61.2	
Ash Lea	Rushcliffe	7.5	55	44	Cotgrave/1,700	No car	28.2	25.1	
Rufford	Newark	5.6	55	45	Rufford/1,300	Pre-1914 terrace housing	7.7	12.2	
Rainworth	Newark	6.4	54	48		Ethnic minority detached houses	18	0.4	
Forest Town	Mansfield	7.0	51	59	Mansfield/1,300				
Blidworth	Newark	8.1	49	51	Blidworth/937				

## Future of pit villages: 2 Mobility lacking in Yorkshire homes

Detailed analysis of 1981 census data for the Yorkshire pit villages suggests how industrial solidarity extends into community life. David Walker, Social Policy Correspondent, continues his report.

Census data for 20 Yorkshire villages, where more than a quarter of men are employed in the pits, shows a series of youngish, rather immobile communities, where housing quality is above average but owner occupation is less than the national figure.

On behalf of *The Times*, CACI, the market researchers, studied census data for the 20 South Yorkshire wards with the heaviest employment in mining. The communities run from Thurnscoe, where 64 per cent of men are miners, to the central area of Barnsley, where 29 per cent are employed in mining.

The picture shows council housing much higher than the national figure of about one-third of tenures. Housing in the Barnsley and Doncaster areas is predominantly in estates of terraces and blocks built mostly since the Second World War.

Perhaps surprisingly, nearly two-thirds of households in the mining areas of South Yorkshire have no resident children. Single parents are scarce; non-whites are completely absent.

There is a high figure for households with more than two adults, suggesting perhaps the presence of grandparents in extended families and younger married couples living with

parents. Together, the unemployed and pensioners make up about 28 per cent of households.

Strikingly, these communities lack mobility. More than half of households have no car, which must make job getting more difficult. That is a social characteristic which makes from the mining areas of Nottinghamshire, where 60 per cent of households have cars.

Taking the top 30 Nottinghamshire wards with the heaviest concentration of employment in mining, we find social conditions not markedly different.

However, in Nottinghamshire council housing is more like the national average and there is more 'tied' accommodation, housing rented out by the National Coal Board. Housing tends to be older and of poorer quality.

Several communities are more dependent on mining than even the closest-knit South Yorkshire village. About 10 wards are dependent on mining for more than half of all men's jobs.

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## Gas cylinder ban for tower blocks urged by minister

By Charles Knevit, Architecture Correspondent

The Government is urging local authorities to stop the use and storage of liquefied petroleum gas cylinders in residential tower blocks to prevent another Ronan Point disaster.

It said that there is evidence that their use is increasing, in spite of warnings by gas suppliers to their agents that they should not be sold to tenants of flats of four storeys or more.

Mr Ian Gow, Minister for Housing and Construction, also said that each authority was responsible for checking the safety of its tower blocks after a recent decision by Newham Borough Council, east London, to evacuate eight blocks similar to Ronan Point.

The minister was replying to two written questions from Mr Nigel Spearing, Labour MP for Newham South, whose constituency includes Ronan Point.

He said that the Government's building research establishment is investigating the problems highlighted at Ronan Point.

Further guidance will be given to authorities with Taylor Woodrow Anglian blocks in Britain. Nearly 600 tower blocks, containing nearly 40,000

flats, were strengthened at a cost of more than £100m after the Ronan Point disaster in 1968, which killed five people.

Mr Gow also confirmed that there was evidence that an early draft of part of the Ronan Point public inquiry report was changed along lines suggested in an allegation published in *The Times*. He added that he was unable to find a street containing the specific words quoted: "Deleted in a broad knibbed pen in purple ink".

The allegation was that a paragraph describing the strength of some walls in Ronan Point as comparable only to "the glass in a good window" was deleted by a government official, against the wishes of the author.

The Government said that the tribunal papers contained no evidence that the text signed by tribunal members and its secretary, was altered between its signature, receipt by the minister, and printing. That was not alleged in *The Times* report.

Mr Gow added that changes in working drafts were normal for a report of such length and complexity.



Growth industry: Andrew Kay, aged 19, from Sheffield, who since becoming an unemployed school leaver last year has raised cash for local garden centres, supported by a bank loan and a Manpower Services Commission award. Now he has a £5,000 turnover.

## Divisions at Plaid Cymru conference

From Tim Jones, Cardiff

The divisions in Plaid Cymru, which have been so carefully plastered over during the last three years by its president, Mr Dafydd Iwan, are threatening to dominate the party conference, which begins today.

Delegates are to debate two motions which will bring the rift into the open as the fundamental philosophy and future direction of the party is examined.

The debate has come about because of the decision of Mr Wigley, MP for Caernarfon, to

step down for family reasons. Two of his children have deteriorating mental health. Two candidates for the post, Mr Dafydd Elis Thomas and Mr Dafydd Iwan, the chairman, represent respectively the so-called red and green wings of the party.

## Race bias 'offence' idea upsets police

By Peter Evans

The Police Federation has written to Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, to protest against unexpected moves to make racial discrimination a disciplinary offence. The Police Superintendents Association also objects.

Mr Leslie Curtis, the federation's chairman, yesterday accused the Government of going back on undertakings by ministers to the federation and Parliament during previous stages of the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill.

Mr Giles Shaw, Minister of State, Home Office, told Mr Curtis that the Government would not seek to overturn in the Commons tomorrow an amendment to the Bill in the Lords moved by Lord Scarman.

The Government was defeated last Friday by 71-65 on the amendment, which said that racial discrimination should be made a specific disciplinary offence. It had been the Government's view that racial discrimination was covered by the disciplinary code.

Police Federation officials fear the offence will be "seized on gleefully by police monitoring groups in London and militant ethnic groups."

BUU, the Commission for Racial Equality said yesterday: "To make racial discrimination a disciplinary offence in the police is the single of the black community in the police."

## French facing a day of chaos in united strike over pay offer

From Diana Gaddes, Paris

Trains, air flights, banks, schools, hospitals and other services are expected to be severely disrupted throughout France today by a 24-hour strike called by six unions representing most of the country's 4.5 million public employees.

The strike is in protest against the Government's decision to increase wages in the public service sector this year by nearly 7 per cent. The unions, which until last year were used to having their wages indexed to the inflation rate, say the offer is unacceptable.

However, the Government argues that the total public salary bill will have increased by 7.6 per cent this year, which is exactly in line with its forecasts of the average rate of inflation during the year.

It appears determined to stick to its offer, which it sees as a pace-setter for coming wage negotiations in the private sector. Privately, it hopes that the public will not have much sympathy for a strike by employees who continue to enjoy job security at a time when hundreds of thousands of industrial workers are being made redundant.

The unions, and in particular the Communist-led CGT, are hoping for a big response today. They see the strike as a test of strength of their rank and file's opposition to the Government's policy of economic rigour. Only the Socialist CFTD union has declined to take part.

Similar action by three public-service unions last March resulted in the biggest single display of union discontent

since the Socialists came to power in 1981. However, apart from their first year in office, when there was an outbreak of union over plans to reduce wages in proportion to the cut in the working week, the Government has remained remarkably free from widespread union disputes.

A total of 1.7 million days were lost through strikes in the 12 months up to last July, which was one of the lowest totals in the past decade and compares with a peak of 6.3 million days lost 10 years earlier.

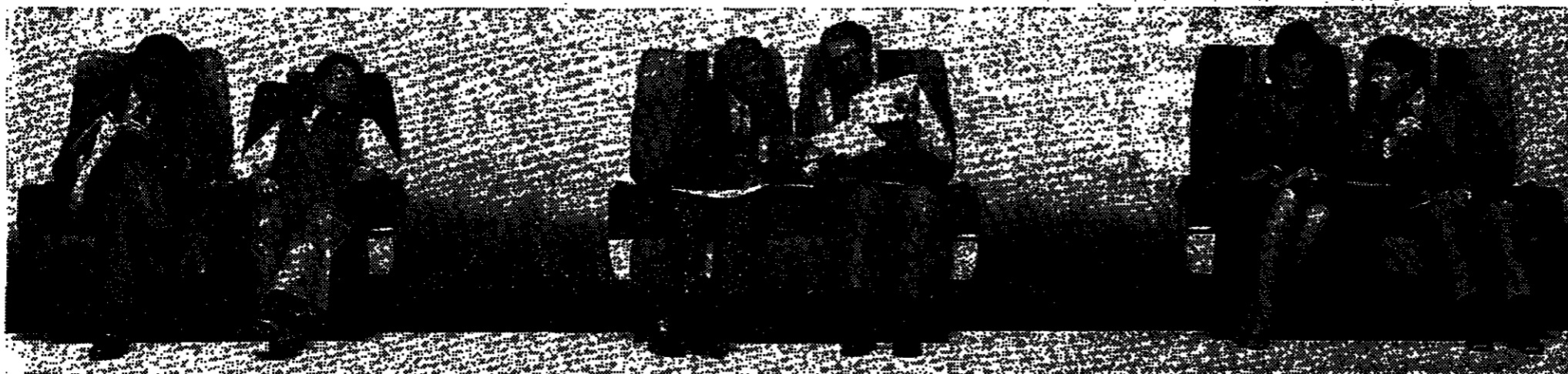
Despite the economic crisis and widespread discontent among workers, the unions are finding it difficult to mobilize their forces except for specific action on a local basis.

Hence the importance of today's nationwide action. A strike by air-traffic controllers will mean the cancellation of virtually all flights between 6am and 10pm.

It was expected that only one in four trains would run between 9pm last night and 6am tomorrow, and most trains bound for foreign destinations are likely to be cancelled. Delays can be expected at most ports and frontier posts because of action by customs officials.

In Paris, Métro and bus services are expected to be running almost normally, after a last-minute special five per cent pay offer induced all but one union representing employees in those services to call off their strike. But traffic in the capital is expected to be disrupted by union demonstrations.

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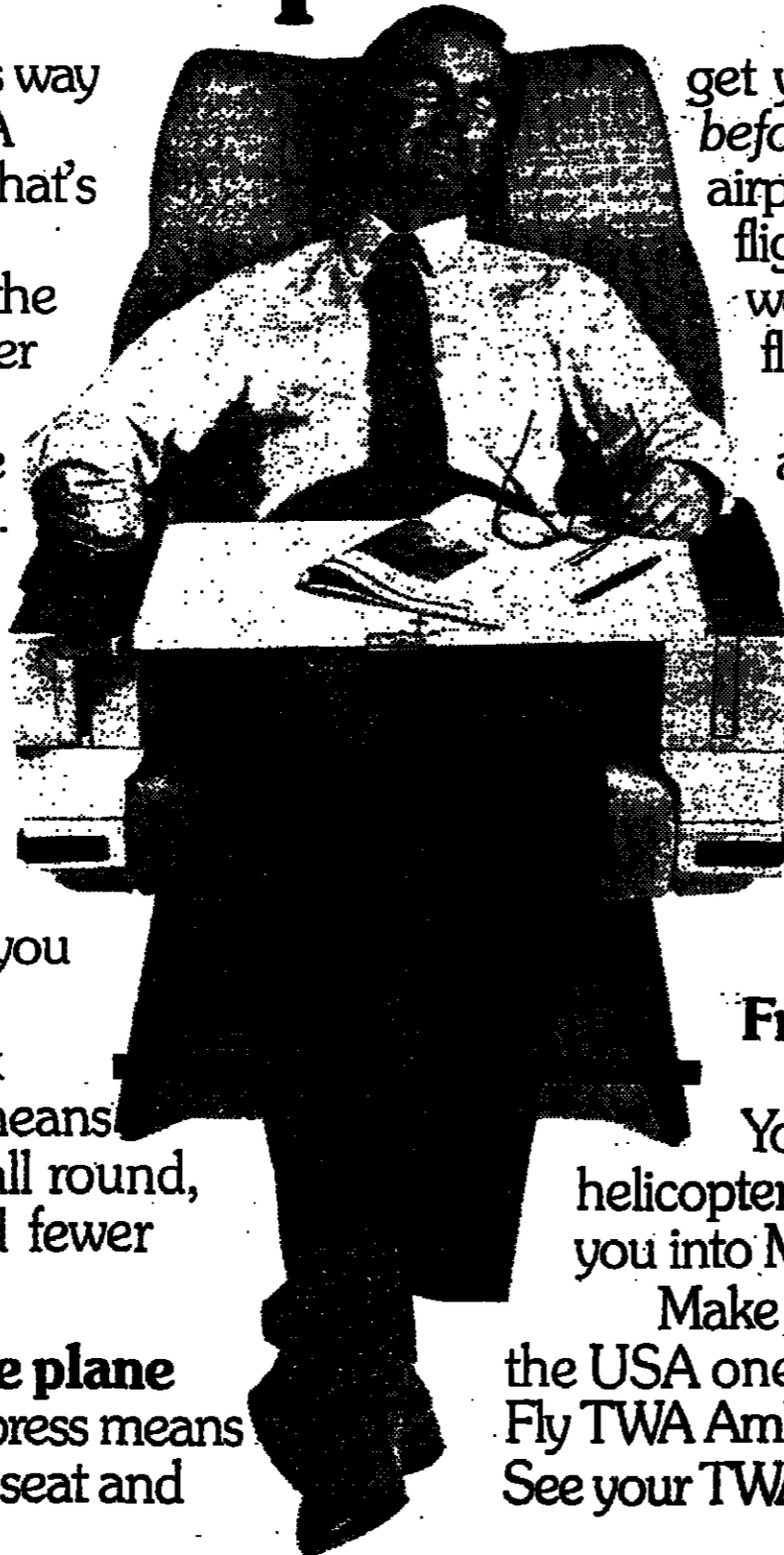
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## Aborigines enter a new world

From Tony Duboulin, Melbourne

The Federal Government is keeping secret the whereabouts of a small family of aborigines who have emerged from the great sandy desert in Western Central Australia to make what is believed to be their first contact with modern life.

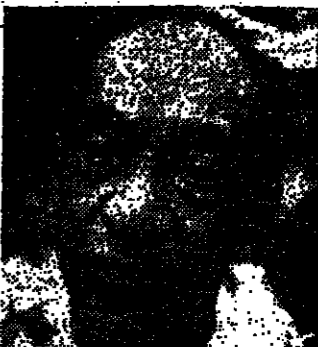
The family, two men, three women, two boys and two girls, part of the Pintubi group or tribe, made contact last week with other Pintubi aborigines who left European settlements and moved back into the desert.

The Pintubi have lived in the area of Western Central Australia for an estimated 40,000 years and were among the last aboriginal groups to move into European settlements in the 1960s.

Apparently until the family established contact with other Pintubi they had lived in isolation in the harsh sandy area of the desert, using traditional skills of hunting and food gathering to survive. It is understood that the aborigine who has acted as a go-between for the family is married to a woman whose sister is one of the family group.

The family speaks an old version of Pintubi, which is a well documented aboriginal language.

Mr Clyde Holding, the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, who is expected to meet the family later this week, said on Tuesday that steps were being taken to ease the cultural shock and to minimize health risks to the family.



President Jayewardene: Success against rebels.

## Setback for Sri Lankan separatists

From Our Correspondent, Colombo

Security forces scored one of their biggest successes in recent months on Tuesday when army personnel struck at the northern command of the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation killing three Tamil separatist rebels and capturing the "military leader" of the group.

Chinese-made rifles stolen from the security forces as well as ammunition, grenades, uniforms and material for uniforms were seized.

Government sources said yesterday interrogation of the captured rebels had revealed that they were planning to disrupt polling in a parliamentary by-election to be held at Minneriya in the North Central province today.

Police have detained two people in Colombo and three at Vavuniya in the north in connection with bomb explosions in Colombo on Monday killing three people.

## Two quit Prague embassy

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Bonn has announced that two East Germans who had taken refuge in the West German Embassy in Prague returned home in Tuesday, without apparently obtaining guarantees they would subsequently be allowed to emigrate to the West. Negotiations are still going on over the fate of the remaining

140 or so refugees in the embassy, but there are signs that a gradual end to the occupation may be in sight. The East German authorities are reported to have given permission to a woman who is eight months pregnant to leave for the West to have her baby there.

TA

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## Walesa asks Jaruzelski to step up search for pro-Solidarity priest

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Mr Lech Walesa and the underground leaders of Solidarity yesterday pressed General Jaruzelski's government to step up its search for the kidnapped priest, Father Jerzy Popieluszko, declaring that "individual terrorism and blackmail have become a permanent instrument of political struggle" in Poland.

As Mr Walesa released his statement, it became clear that some workers wanted to exert other, perhaps more dangerous pressure on the authorities. A leaflet passed from hand to hand among parishioners at Father Popieluszko's church, announced: "We call upon Father Jerzy so much that from October 25 they should put themselves on strike alert and, if he does not return, they should stage strikes, in the pre-arranged forms, from Monday. Give us back our Father Jerzy".

Helicopters flew over the Warsaw steel works and police units stood by after reports that a group of workers might walk to the church of Father Popieluszko, but attempts to organize a march failed, and the workers dispersed quietly and without police intervention.

The leaflet circulated in the church was signed by the "Workers' Solidarity Committee" of the Warsaw steel works, but some workers at the

plant said they were unsure of the authenticity of the appeal. "It might just be a provocation," one said. "Somebody is trying to sow chaos out of chaos".

The question of who that "somebody" is, of who is behind last Friday's kidnapping of the Solidarity priest, is dominating the thoughts of the Government, Solidarity and the church.

Solidarity seems in little doubt that the culprits are either disgruntled members of the security service or are at least sheltered by sympathetic, hard-line elements in the police.

Mr Walesa's statement, drawn up after he met in secret on Monday with the leaders of Solidarity, said: "In a country where law is continuously and commonly violated, where security forces serve exclusively the interests of the authorities and are not subject to any social control, every incident like this can bring about unimaginable results".

The police have detained five people, including a member of the Interior Ministry, who live near the scene of the abduction and who drive cars similar to that used by the kidnappers.

There is no hint that any of those detained is involved in the abduction and many Poles believe that the round-up is simply a way of showing the public that the police are doing

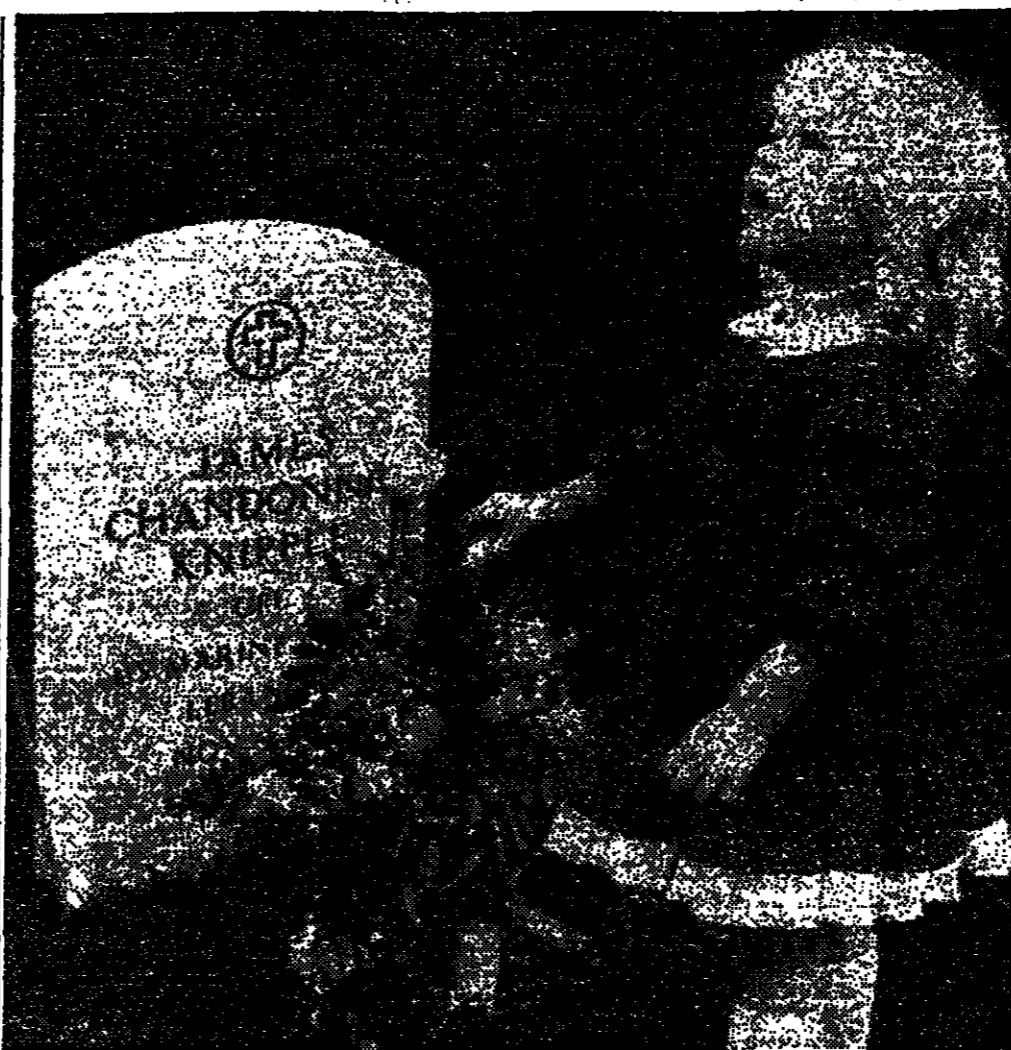
something. Photographs of the priest have been printed in the press and a "hotline" has been established. At least one person claims to have seen the priest in Warsaw a day after the kidnapping, but the report has not been confirmed.

Mr Jerzy Urban, the government spokesman, has publicly voiced his fears that the kidnappers are trying to compromise the authorities, to wipe out the effects of moves to restore relations with the West, and set back government attempts to introduce limited political reforms.

Mr Urban is in a particularly exposed position, as he recently published an article fiercely attacking Father Popieluszko for his anti-government and thus extremely popular sermons.

The kidnapping has overshadowed the visit to Warsaw by Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Greek Prime Minister, which ended yesterday. The authorities had hailed the visit as a big breakthrough, shattering the Western diplomatic blockade of Poland imposed after the declaration of martial law in 1981.

● **ROME:** The Pope appealed yesterday for the immediate release of Father Popieluszko and called the abduction an "infamous" and "inhuman" deed (AP reports).



### Honouring the victims of terrorism

Elizabeth Reinger, aged two, who was among several children who placed flowers on graves in Arlington National Cemetery, Virginia, on Tuesday. They were honouring American victims of terrorism worldwide, including Marine Corporal James Knipple, who died in the bombing of US Marine Headquarters in Beirut a year ago.

## Israel fears unrest as economy reels

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

### FAMILY FORTUNES

As talks started last night to try to secure union approval for Israel's toughest austerity package yet, there were reports that police were drawing up plans to tackle possible disorder arising from the rapidly deteriorating economic situation.

With inflation approaching 1,000 per cent, the package is designed to reduce the amount wages are cushioned against inflation by nearly 30 per cent, to trim the budget by a further \$500m (£410m) and reduce public sector employment by 10 per cent, putting 14,000 out of work.

Less than 24 hours before the negotiations opened in an atmosphere of crisis, there was pandemonium in food stores as shoppers stripped shelves after hearing news of the latest planned subsidy cut — the second in less than two months — which means a 24 per cent jump in the price of basic food stuffs and petrol.

Earlier, Mr Yitzhak Modai, the Finance Minister, asked a parliamentary committee to approve a \$24m allocation for food subsidies for October alone. He disclosed that the entire subsidy budget for the fiscal year 1984/5 had been used up already.

Some staple products have risen in price by more than 100 per cent since August and there are fears in official circles that there could be riots if things get worse as more Israelis are put out of work because of the austerity measures.

Comparative cost of an assortment of goods (including housing costs for an owner-occupier) for an average urban household family of 3.4 people, calculated against the base of the monthly average for 1980, which came to 3,660 shekels	
Sept 1981	3,660
Sept 1982	20,500
Sept 1983	44,573
Jan 1984	53,473
Aug 1984	211,500
Sept 1984	257,000

Source: Israeli Department of Statistics

Yesterday the shekel's exchange rate was 555 to the pound.

In the Tel Aviv suburb of Holon, police were called to deal with angry crowds at one supermarket. In Tel Aviv, there was a stampede after radio reports that meat and poultry prices were going to rise by 90 per cent, a move apparently approved, but restituted by the Government only hours after its announcement.

"People are willing to kill for frozen chicken," a shop assistant reported from what Israelis are describing as their new "front line". Before the government announcement that meat and poultry prices would only go up 24 per cent, like other foodstuffs, one man was reported to have purchased subsidized meat worth more than £5,000 at the old prices.

The latest round of subsidy cuts angered leaders of the Histadrut, the national labour federation, whose chairman, Mr Yisrael Kessar, accused the Government of "joining the chorus of price-gougers".

## Times man stands by world chess attack

By David Cross

Mr Harry Golombek, the Chess Correspondent of *The Times*, yesterday rejected claims by the International Chess Federation (Fide) that he had written "scandalous and unfounded" statements about the world championship in Moscow.

"Something abnormal is happening", Mr Golombek said. "What my critics fail to explain is why Kasparov is playing in a style totally unprecedented for him in which he embarks on attacks without due preparation — a procedure which he has never before adopted."

"They also fail to explain why he is adopting times of play and openings which are familiar to Karpov and not at all the type of opening he himself has played before."

In a letter to *The Times*, Señor Florencio Campomanes, the president of Fide, said that "any suggestion that either player is being driven by external pressures into consciously substandard play is absurd and ridiculous. The reality is that Karpov, the world champion, is producing chess of a very high standard, and his challenger, Kasparov, though less a successful hitherto, has fought and given of his best."

Señor Campomanes was responding to an article in *The Times* on October 13, in which Mr Golombek suggested that Kasparov, who is now trailing Karpov 4-0 after 16 games, might have been told to throw the match deliberately on the

ground that Karpov could not be allowed to lose.

"Perhaps Kasparov has been warned not to play well and has been given to understand that the consequences for him and his family would be disastrous", Mr Golombek suggested.

Mr Golombek pointed out yesterday that the results to date were entirely out of keeping with the normally accurate Elo rating system of classifying the strength of champions. The most recent assessments of Karpov and Kasparov had indicated a match win by the challenger of about six games to four, he added.

His arguments were also rejected by members of Kasparov's delegation. In a letter addressed to Fide, Mr Yuri Mamedov, leader of the Kasparov camp, insisted that Soviet sport did not admit any other methods of gaining victory apart from "open and equal competition. . . . It is the situation which exists in the current chess match and this is recognized by all those present", he added.

### Another draw

Seventeenth game  
White Karpov, Black Kasparov

1 K-K3	2 P-Q4	3 P-Q4	4 K-K3
5 B-B4	6 P-K3	7 P-K3	8 B-B4
9 B-Q2	10 Q-K2	11 B-Q2	12 P-Q4
13 K-K1	14 P-K3	15 P-Q4	16 B-B4
17 P-Q4	18 P-Q4	19 P-Q4	20 B-B4
21 Q-Q4	22 Q-K2	23 Q-K2	24 B-B4

Draw agreed.

## Flick cash gifts denied by Barzel

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

In keenly-awaited testimony that could prove decisive for his political career, Herr Rainer Barzel, the speaker of the Bundestag, told a special parliamentary committee yesterday that he had received no money from the Flick concern, and that sums paid him by Frankfurt law firm between 1973 and 1982 did not correspond to the money paid to the firm by Flick.

Herr Barzel also denied the "infamous" suggestion that Flick money had played any role in his decision to resign as chairman of the Christian Democratic Union in 1973. Last week, a Green member of Parliament was ejected from the Bundestag for suggesting that Flick had "bought" the way clear for Herr Helmut Kohl to take over as CDU chairman in 1973.

Revelations that Herr Barzel received a total of some DM 1.7m (about £455,000) from the Frankfurt lawyer, Herr Albert Paul, who had close dealings with Flick, have shaken the Christian Democratic Party, which was paying Herr Barzel a special supplementary salary after his resignation.

Herr Barzel is under strong pressure from his own party to resign immediately to limit the damage the scandal is doing to the CDU in the public's estimation. The revelations may have a serious effect on the party's standing in local elections in Baden-Württemberg on Sunday.

Herr Barzel has had to give a lengthy account of his income and relations with Flick to the party praesidium already, and leading politicians were markedly cool towards him.

Herr Kohl in among those who have spoken of a "slander campaign" but has refused to come to Herr Barzel's defence.

## Embryo doubts

Sydney (AP) — Scientists doubted if the two "orphaned" frozen embryos, whose lives were saved on Tuesday by Victoria State's upper house of parliament, would survive thawing. But they promised to make every effort to implant them in one of the 90 women, mostly American, seeking their adoption.

### Reunion blaze

Manila (AP) — Eight people were killed in a fire that destroyed an hotel in Baguio where 200 American Second World War veterans had gathered for a reunion. Two of the victims were identified as Americans, the others were too charred for recognition.

### Trial stopped

Cairo (AFP) — Egypt's state security court, accepting a Cambodian request, halted the trial of 176 Islamic Fundamentalists, members of the al-Jihad (Holy War) organizations and ordered their release from detention. The trial opened in February.

### Tanker inferno

Bombay (Reuters) — Three people died and four were badly burnt when an Indian oil tanker, the 28,812-ton Lajpat Rai, caught fire here. At least seven more people were feared trapped inside.

### Flood deaths

Bangkok (AFP) — Five people have died in floods affecting Cambodia's provinces of Kompong Cham and Kratie, damaging 96,124 acres of rice and 101,894 acres of other food crops.

### Oh Calcutta!

Calcutta (AP) — After years of delays and financial problems, India's first underground railway system began limited commercial service in Calcutta. A four coach train carried 1,000 passengers on a two-mile maiden run.

# How you'll get your increases during DHSS industrial action.

From the week commencing November 26th, Retirement Pensions, Widow's Benefits and Child Benefit will increase.

If you are paid by order book we'd normally issue you with a new book showing the increased rates.

Unfortunately, due to industrial action at the DHSS computer centres in Newcastle, many people will not get their new books in time.

We've therefore made special arrangements for those affected to get the new rates.

### RETIREMENT PENSIONERS AND WIDOWS

Please ignore this notice if you have a pension book which still has orders in it. Just continue to cash them as they become due.

If you are still being paid on your old order book, continue to call at the post office for emergency payments.

During October and November, post offices will be attaching new covers to the front of these books when they are pre-

sented for payment. These covers will show the new rate of benefit.

If a new cover has not been attached to your book by November 19th, send or take your book to your local social security office, with a note explaining that you need a new front cover.

### IF YOU RECEIVE CHILD BENEFIT

Please ignore this notice if your order book contains orders dated November 26th or later which show the new rate of £6.85 per child.

Continue to cash the orders as they become due.

If your order book has already run out but you are still being paid on it, continue to call at the post office for emergency payments.

If your present book has some orders in it but they run out before November 26th, you may need to obtain emergency payments on the expired book until your new book arrives.

During October and November, post offices will be attaching new front

covers to the front of order books which do not already show the new rates, when they are presented for payment.

These covers will show the new rate of benefit.

If a new cover has not been attached to your book by November 20th (December 4th if you are paid 4-weekly), send or take your book to your local social security office, with a note explaining that you need a new front cover.

You can ignore this notice if you are paid by some method other than an order book. Further information will be given later if it is necessary for you to take special action.

We apologise for any inconvenience caused by the industrial action. Together with the Post Office we'll do all we can to see that you continue to get your benefit on time.

If for any reason you think that the wrong rate of benefit is being paid to you, check with your local social security office.

Issued by the Department of Health and Social Security

## Scourge of Salvadorean guerrillas killed in helicopter disaster

From John Carlin, San Salvador

Our senior Salvadorean military officers have been killed in what is considered to be one of the severest setbacks suffered by the American-backed army since civil war broke out between the Government and flying rebels.

The helicopter in which the officers were travelling crashed in the mountains of eastern Morazan province, a guerrilla stronghold throughout the five-year war. An armed forces spokesman blamed technical failure but the guerrillas claim they shot down the helicopter with machine-gun fire.

There were 14 people in the helicopter, one of them a Catholic priest. All were reported dead.

One of the four officers who was killed was Colonel Domingo Monterrosa, top military commander for eastern El Salvador, the principal theatre of operations in the civil war.

Colonel Monterrosa who was 2 was considered by virtually every military analyst in El Salvador as the army's most effective, most irreplaceable field commander. He was known for his aggression and cleanliness in taking the war to the guerrillas, especially notable in a Salvadorean army many of whose officers have been accused of conducting brutally 9-to-5 operations.

US military advisors in El

Salvador have said that the one officer who came close to Colonel Monterrosa in professionalism was Major Armando Azmitia, but he too was in the helicopter, as were two other very experienced army officers. One of them was Colonel Napoleon Calito, military commander for Morazan.

Ironically, just hours before his helicopter crashed, Colonel Monterrosa had said he had captured and put out of action the very rebel radio station, Venceremos, which was exultant to announce his death.

Venceremos claimed that a special anti-aircraft unit hit the helicopter from a hilltop in Morazan.

The troops loved Colonel Monterrosa. He took enormous risks, always went to the front line and was a fine orator, with a remarkable capacity for boosting the morale of his troops. Privately he was soft-spoken, remarkably mild and affable.

While no one doubted his leadership qualities, several people criticized him for exposing himself to too much danger. Now Government officials are asking why not only he but three other key senior officers were flying together in a helicopter over territory known to be swarming with guerrillas.

Radio Venceremos had good reason to be happy. Guerrilla fighters to whom reporters have

spoken in the east of El Salvador this year always talked of Colonel Monterrosa with a professional respect. Major El Salvador are unanimous that the colonel's loss will prove an extremely damaging blow to the army's war effort.

The rebels' political leader has said he hopes Colonel Monterrosa's death will help to persuade the army of the seriousness of the guerrilla threat, and make them see that if there is no negotiated peace the civil war could go on forever.

In a telephone interview from his Panama home, rebel leader Dr Guillermo Ungo said, however, that the army might now "react emotionally" and intensify the war.

An experienced political analyst in San Salvador, who is close to President Jose Napoleon Duarte, said he thought this was the most "brutal blow" the army has suffered in the war. He expected the army to react badly now, setting back President Duarte's recently begun peace initiative.

In the past week the right-wing death squads have again emerged.

The Secret Anti-Communist army (ESA) murdered a 14-year-old boy and two other unidentified youths last weekend. They carved the initials ESA into the youths' foreheads.



One risk too many: Colonel Monterrosa, the most charismatic of El Salvador's fighting soldiers, who died when his helicopter crashed over Guerrilla territory. The troops loved him, the rebels held him in awe, but his daring had been criticized.

## Liberals pull out of Nicaraguan poll

From Alan Tomlinson, Managua

The withdrawal from elections of one of Nicaragua's main opposition parties has thrown the country's electoral process into disarray.

The Independent Liberals, the most important of the six parties contesting the November 4 elections against the ruling Sandinista Front, announced on Monday that its national conference had voted 94 to 20 to withdraw from the election.

A three-party coalition of right-wing parties is boycotting the elections for president, vice-president and 90 seats in the Legislative Assembly, the first since the Sandinistas took power in a popular insurrection five years ago.

The centre-left Liberals said they would not participate until the Government expanded its present round of talks with the parties into a broader "national dialogue" embracing all sections of society, including the Roman Catholic Church, the business community and the right-wing coalition, known as the Democratic Coordinating Committee.

Commandante Daniel Ortega, the coordinator of the Sandinista junta, has been quick to assert that there can be no postponement of the election date to accommodate such a dialogue. The Sandinistas are determined to be returned as an elected government before President Reagan can win a second term with a mandate to continue his hostile policies towards Nicaragua.

The motives for the Liberals'

withdrawal at such a late stage are not entirely clear. The party leadership had given the impression that it would remain in the race now that the Sandinistas were talking. They had also expressed fears that to withdraw might undermine the elections and lead to a pretext for direct American intervention.

Even after the announcement, presidential candidate Virgilio Godoy signed his name to the first accords to come out of the talks with the Government, including firm guarantees that there would be political freedom after the elections.

The Government had also agreed to continue the dialogue in its present form after the elections and to allow the coalition parties to join the negotiations at any time.

Government has accused the coalition parties of obeying the wishes of the Reagan Administration by refusing to participate in the electoral process, which it has described as the first free and honest election in Nicaragua's history.

Western diplomats are now speculating that two more parties - the Democratic Conservatives and the Popular Social Christians - may now follow the Liberal lead, leaving only the Government and three left-wing parties in a discredited contest. There are also that the Sandinistas may convert the elections into a referendum seeking popular approval for their continuation in power.

## Britain rejects Alfonsín aid plea

From Ian Murray, Strasbourg

President Alfonsín of Argentina pleaded with the European Parliament for financial help from the EEC, but Britain immediately made it clear there could be no such thing until he declared an end to hostilities over the Falklands.

The half-hour speech carefully avoided any mention of the islands, although the President pointedly explained that peaceful international coexistence could be settled diplomatically as had been proved in negotiations with Chile over sovereignty of the Beagle Channel.

He also sought to draw a lesson from the way in which the European Parliament had been created among nations which "not so very long ago were tearing the old continent apart". It had been created from a lasting compromise, he said, and there was no reason why that type of compromise should not be taken beyond the confines of Europe.

After advice from Downing Street, about a third of British Conservatives MEPs boycotted the speech, while others went into the chamber to listen with the intention of protesting if the word "Malvinas" was uttered.

No British Conservative attended the lunch offered by the Parliament in honour of the Argentine President, although two Danish members of the Conservative group did attend.

Señor Alfonsín did win support from Conservative members during his speech when he attacked the common agricultural policy and the "terrible effect" it had on the EEC budget. Not only did this weaken Europe, he argued, but the gap was taking away Argentina's agricultural export market.

The speech was essentially a plea and a warning. If the new democracy in his country was to survive, there had to be international help to rebuild the economy.

A Foreign Office statement said that progress with the Community was certain to be hampered because Argentina still had no diplomatic relations with one of the 10 member states and still refused to declare an end to hostilities.

It was "a source of great regret and frustration" to Britain that the Argentine Government had broken off the talks in Buenos Aires last July which were meant to establish relations on a mutually beneficial basis. President Alfonsín had since said in New York that he would accept the islands being returned to Argentina. This, the statement said, was obviously incompatible with progress to restoring normal relations.

Britain hoped the President's visit to Europe would "confirm to him that his predecessor's brutal invasion of the Falkland Islands cannot be ignored. The way ahead is for him to declare a definite cessation of hostilities and to work on a realistic basis for more normal relations with Britain," acknowledged that, like the people of Argentina, the Falkland Islanders also have the right to live under a government of their own choosing.

While taking a hard line against what it described as President Alfonsín's inappropriate visit to the Parliament, the Foreign Office is still trying to maintain some sort of Community solidarity. The United Nations General Assembly is due to vote next month on an Argentine motion on the islands, and Britain is trying to head off the danger that Italy, Greece and even France may vote to support it.

## Steel urges Argentine contacts

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic correspondent

Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, is calling on the Government to seek an early resumption of talks with Argentina, which broke down amid mutual recriminations almost as soon as they opened in July.

He is "cautiously optimistic" that discussions of the wider issues dividing the two countries would lead to a settlement of the Falklands dispute and would be in the interests of both countries.

Mr Steel, who is critical of the political groundwork preceding the abortive talks in Buenos Aires, will see Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, at his own request tomorrow to discuss his recent meeting in Panama with Argentina's Vice-President, Señor Oscar Torres-Avalos.

Mr Steel will also report to Sir Geoffrey on his visit to Nicaragua, where he urged leaders of the Independent Liberal Party to stay in the coming elections, despite difficulties it experienced. It has subsequently pulled out.

He returned from his trip highly critical of American policy in Nicaragua. It is designed to bring stability to the region, but is having exactly the opposite effect, he said.

● MEXICO CITY: Two British politicians have called for a suspension of foreign aid to Guatemala because of the military government's human rights record (Reuters reports). The appeal by Lord Avebury and Mr Anthony Lloyd, Labour MP for Sireford, came just three weeks after 12 European nations announced an increase in aid to Central America.

The two members of the British parliamentary human rights group, said after a five-day visit to Guatemala that they would press for a suspension of aid by the European Community and the United States.

## Zimbabwe MP appeals

From Jan Raath, Harare

Rev James Bassoppo-Moyo, 62, the Deputy Speaker in the House of Assembly, has been found guilty on two counts of attempted murder.

The Harare Regional Court found that on April 29 this year Bassoppo-Moyo, fired with a pistol into a crowd and wounded one man in the jaw.

The incident took place at a shopping centre 160 miles south of the capital. The regional magistrate, Mr Misheck Cheda, accepted that Rev Bassoppo-

Moyo was inflamed with jealousy at the success of his neighbour's bottle store.

During UDI, Mr Bassoppo-Moyo spent seven years in detention for his role in black nationalist politics. Mr Cheda, sentenced him to three years' imprisonment but because of his contribution to the liberation war and his age, he suspended the sentence.

Mr Bassoppo-Moyo was granted bail of sterling £3,000, pending his appeal.

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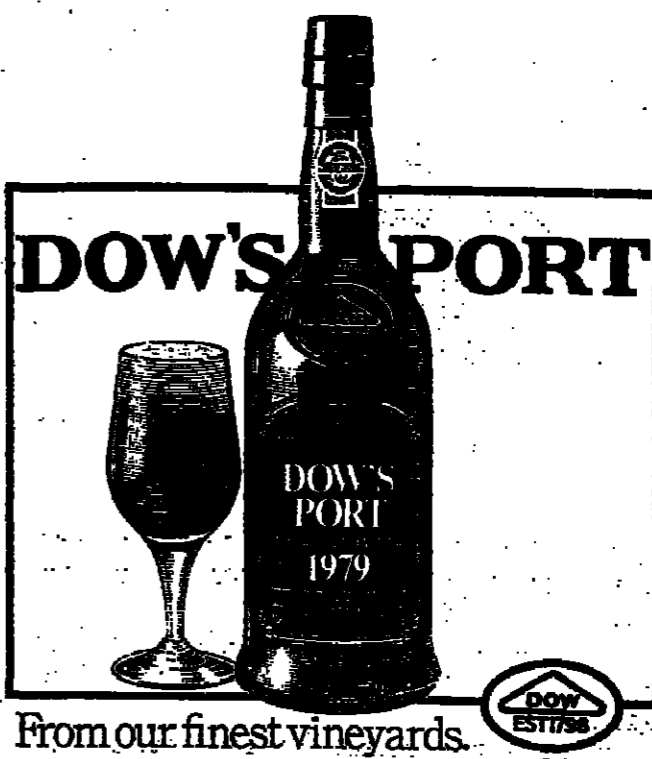
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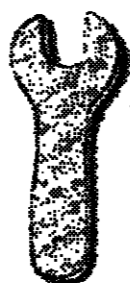
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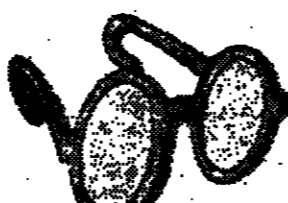
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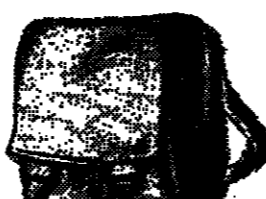
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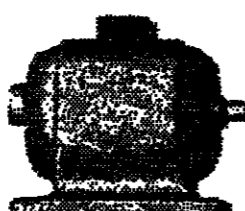
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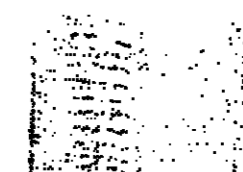
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## Gorbachov loses control of agriculture but emerges unscathed

From Richard Owen, Moscow

The long-awaited party plenum, which convened on Tuesday after weeks of rumour and counter-rumour, has made it clear that Mr Mikhail Gorbachov is no longer in charge of agriculture, but has failed to clarify the Kremlin power struggle.

Contrary to assurances by party officials no personnel changes were announced and all eyes are on the next winter plenum to be held next month or in early December.

The main speeches at the plenum on agriculture which occupied nearly four full pages of *Pravda* yesterday, came from President Chernenko and Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, the Prime Minister. Mr Gorbachov, the Kremlin number two and heir-apparent, did not speak even though he has been responsible for agriculture in the politburo since 1980.

Observers said the party rank and file would not necessarily read this as a demonstration since Mr Gorbachov had acquired widowers as number two in the party hierarchy and might be glad to relinquish the burden of farm policy, the traditional quagmire of Soviet politics.

No new agriculture secretary was appointed at the plenum, which was called to examine the poor state of Soviet culture. This year's harvest is expected to be only 170 million tonnes, 70

million tonnes below target and one of the worst grain harvests in a dismal decade.

Mr Chernenko announced a big land improvement scheme designed to increase the amount of cultivated soil available by the end of the century. He and Mr Tikhonov spell out new irrigation and drainage methods, and urged the use of new technology to increase crop yields.

Mr Chernenko described the period since the Brezhnev food programme was adopted in May 1982 as fruitful, but added: "Despite the positive results, the problem of providing many cities with foodstuffs - above all, meat - remains acute". Agricultural production lagged far behind requirements, the Soviet leader said, blaming Mr Valentin Mesyats, the Agriculture Minister, and the Russian climate.

There was no suggestion of reforming the collective farm system, however, and no discussion of the "contract brigade" system of payment by results associated with Mr Gorbachov.

A Kremlin watcher said: "It is hard to believe the Central Committee was convened just to talk about drainage and fertilizers."

The plenum, which appears to be a factor in the struggle to succeed Mr Chernenko, remained shrouded in mystery to

the last moment, with even the staff of *Pravda* uncertain when it would take place. If it was forced by Mr Gorbachov's rivals - headed by Mr Grigory Romanov, - to embarrass him politically, it appears to have failed.

No blame was laid at Mr Gorbachov's door, although he has in the past criticized plans to increase land rather than use existing land more efficiently and is therefore presumed to dissent from Mr Chernenko's new policy, which for many Russians is reminiscent of the grandiose (and unsuccessful) schemes launched by Khrushchev in the 1950s.

In a front-page *Pravda* photograph last week, Mr Gorbachov was shown in a less prominent position than Mr Romanov. Normally Mr Gorbachov stands next to Mr Chernenko, emphasizing his position as heir-apparent.

Some observers believe the plenum was intended to show that Mr Chernenko - who has been active in foreign policy lately - is firmly in charge of home affairs.

Neither he nor Mr Tikhonov mentioned the controversial plan to reverse two Siberian rivers, the Irtysh and the Ob, to irrigate central Asia, but the press had indicated that the Kremlin has decided to go ahead.

## Townships quiet but tense

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Police were still patrolling the streets of the troubled Vaal river townships of Sharpeville, Sebokeng and Boipatong yesterday after Tuesday's huge dragnet operation by a combined force of 7,000 heavily armed troops and police.

By Tuesday night, the Army, never previously deployed so openly and on such a scale to quell internal unrest except under martial law, had been withdrawn, but it was believed to be in the vicinity in case it should be needed again.

The mood in the townships, about 40 miles south of here, was described by residents as tense and sullen, but otherwise quiet. Schools were almost all empty, with more than 90,000 pupils in the region either deliberately boycotting classes

or under pressure not to turn up.

Police said 358 people were arrested on Tuesday, 348 in Sebokeng and only 10 in Sharpeville and Boipatong. Most have been charged with minor criminal offences or infringements of the pass laws, which control the movement of Africans outside the tribal reserves.

Few, if any, of those caught in the police net qualify, even in South African terms, as "revolutionaries", whose unearthing was said by Mr Louis le Grange, the Minister of Law and Order, to be one of the main objectives of the operation, codenamed Bullrush.

The searches and interrogations were carried out with as much courtesy as is possible

when heavily armed groups of men knock on doors in the pre-dawn hours and turn inhabitants out of bed. "We didn't have to kick down one door," a police officer said with a touch of pride.

NEW YORK: In a speech intended to rally South Africa's white rulers as well as its black majority, Bishop Desmond Tutu, the winner of this year's Nobel Prize, made an impassioned appeal here for the end of the politics of exclusion in his country and the eradication without violence of apartheid (Zoriana Pysariwsky writes).

The United Nations Security Council passed a resolution condemning Pretoria's recent crackdown on black unrest.



Presidential stumble: Mr Reagan falls heavily on the steps of his aircraft at Seattle. He was not hurt and quickly picked himself up and waved to the crowd.

## Reagan runs into heckling

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

President Reagan's tightly orchestrated reelection campaign has had its first taste of heckling. In all the weeks of rallies and speech making, a net of Republican security men has protected the Reagan campaign from any hint of dissent. When it came, he seemed thrown.

Whenever Mr Reagan speaks indoors, the audience is subjected to a security search similar to the procedures at international airports. It is a time for weeding out protesters.

In Portland, Oregon, two dozen protesters slipped through. The Reagan camp later treated the diversion from the campaign script with dire seriousness. Mr James Lake, Press Secretary for the Reagan campaign, said the heckling was organized by an anti-Reagan coalition and reflected "a certain amount of desperation on the part of partisans of the opposition".

Small signs suddenly appeared in the audience proclaiming: "The Reagan Administration lies about Central America" and "The finger on the button is senile." They were barely visible in a sea of 4,200 flag-waving Reagan supporters, who had stood for 18 minutes in darkness while they were edited by Mr Reagan's convention film.

The lights came on, a huge American flag rose behind the podium and the president entered. He was briefly into his standard message of optimism and prosperity when the epithets began to spill the party. "Liar, liar, pants on fire" was one. "Murderer" was another. "We don't want your war in Central America," they shouted.

They were instantly swamped by placards reading: "Oregon." Mr Reagan at first sought to ignore them. "Two more weeks," the protesters yelled. "Four more years," came back the theme chant of the Reagan campaign.

Mr Reagan said: "I may just let Mondale raise his taxes." The hubbub persisted. "You

know, I know I'm no concert baritone so I know those can't be an echo in my voice." The audience cheered.

In Seattle, Mr Reagan fell on the steps of the Presidential aircraft, landing heavily. He rose smiling, unhurt.

With less than a fortnight to go, the campaign is getting dirtier and more personalized. Mr Mondale, speaking in Ohio, quoted from a recently unearthed letter written by Mr Reagan to Mr Richard Nixon in 1960 likening John Kennedy's ideas to those of Karl Marx and Adolf Hitler.

It said: "One last thought, shouldn't someone tag Mr Kennedy's bold new imaginative programme with - it's (sic) proper age? Under the toasted boyish haircut, it is still old Karl Marx - first launched a century ago. There is nothing new in the idea of a government being Big Brother to us all. Hitler called his 'state socialism' and way before him it was 'benevolent monarchy'."

Mr Reagan said on arrival in Columbus, Ohio: "If you read the letter you will find there is nothing wrong with it."

Mr Reagan said on arrival in Columbus, Ohio: "If you read the letter you will find there is nothing wrong with it."

## Ethnic voters: The Italians

### Pizza parlours to halls of power

From Nicholas Ashford, New York

Pasta, the Mafia, big families and thick accents. For years have struggled to rid themselves of the ethnic stereotypes which their fellow countrymen have attached to them since hundreds of thousands of poor Italian immigrants started pouring into Ellis Island at the end of the last century.

The fact that America was discovered by an Italian and named after one is often forgotten. Many Americans still think of their Italian compatriots in terms of *The Godfather* or pizza parlours.

The nomination of Ms Geraldine Ferraro as the Democratic Party's vice-presidential candidate has done much to scotch that image. "She has shown that Italian-American women don't just raise families and cook spaghetti," Mrs Paula Carracciola, a constituent from Ms Ferraro's Queens district of New York, and an outspoken admirer of the three-term congresswoman, said.

Ms Ferraro's nomination is, in fact, the culmination of a process of political integration by the nation's 12 million Italian-Americans which has been going on since the end of the Second World War but particularly during the 1960's and 1970s.

There are 33 Italian-American members of Congress (including four senators) and two state governors - Mario Cuomo of New York and Richard Celeste of Ohio. Although they are predominantly Democratic and mainly represent industrial areas, they include a number of prominent Republicans.

For years Italian-Americans were considered voting fodder for the Democratic Party and they helped provide it with its huge built-in majorities in the industrialized states of the north-east.

However, assimilation, increasing affluence and the drift away from city centres to the suburbs have dramatically changed voting patterns in recent years. Little Italy has moved to Long Island, and its residents have taken on conservative middle-class American values.

In the 1976 presidential election Mr Jimmy Carter outvoted President Ford among Italian-Americans by 12 percentage points. Four years later, figures were reversed.

Conscious of their voting power, particularly in key states

Italian-American population - 12.2 million.  
Main areas of concentration - New York (2.8m), New Jersey (1.3m), Pennsylvania (1.2m), California (1.1m), Massachusetts (750,000).

Prominent Italian-American politicians - Mario Cuomo, Governor of New York; Richard Celeste, Governor of Ohio; Senator Alfonse D'Amato (R, New York); Senator Dennis Deconcini (D, Arizona); Senator Pete Domenici (R, New Mexico).

such as New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, California and Illinois which a presidential candidate needs to capture to win the election, both parties have been busily courting the Italian-American vote this year.

The appointment of Ms Ferraro as Mr Walter Mondale's running-mate was dictated as much by her perceived appeal to Italian and other ethnic American groups as it was by her ability to attract women voters.

President Reagan has also been busily wooing Italian-Americans, visiting traditional Italian-American areas, attending Italian-American functions and going out of his way to praise cooperation with the Italian Government on issues such as Lebanon, the deployment of cruise missiles and the freeing of General James Dozier from the Red Brigades.

It was indicative of the importance which both parties attach to Italian-Americans that all four presidential candidates attended the National Italian-American Foundation dinner in Washington last month - an event unprecedented in US election history.

This year Italian-American voters face a dilemma. Do they vote for a President whom many admire and whose emphasis on family, traditional values, hard work and self-sufficiency they approve of? Or do they cast their ballot for a ticket that includes one of their own, a woman whose vice-presidential candidacy has done so much for Italian-American prestige?

"I think some Italian-Americans may vote for her on ethnic grounds, but most will vote for who they think will do the best job, regardless of their background," Mr Fred Rotondaro, the foundation's president, said. Although conscious and proud of their Italian identity "we are Americans first and foremost and will vote just as other Americans vote."



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## Spain need not join Nato's military arm, Gonzalez says

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Spain has to remain a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization but does not need to join its military structures, Señor Felipe Gonzalez, the Prime Minister, said here last night when he revealed the most important foreign policy decision of his Government which now almost two years old.

The Spanish people will be given the chance to approve or reject the Socialist Government's line in a referendum, he promised probably in February 1986. This is almost a year later than he once suggested, evidently to provide the chance to "educate" Spaniards, most of whom, according to polls favour leaving Nato completely.

Next year is supposed to be devoted to that process as Spain's integration into the EEC, beginning in 1986, is also supposed simultaneously to be sinking into the national consciousness.

The announcement, after months of governmental ambiguity, will inevitably disappoint other Nato members and leave Spanish military leaders out on a limb. Since their country joined the political side of the alliance more than two years ago, they have come to see its benefits in terms of moderniza-

tion, coordinated planning and intelligence.

But domestically, as a parliamentary debate centred on the Nato statement showed yesterday, Señor Gonzalez has clearly put his government in the best available position, considering it is reversing an over-hasty 1982 general election pledge to let the Spanish people decide on quitting Nato.

Señor Gonzalez, who had to speak out before the Socialist Party's December national conference, urged all the political forces in parliament to devise a national consensus to put to the country. All parties to the right of the Socialists favour full Nato membership. Only the tiny Communist Party has rejected his idea outright.

Señor Gonzalez is proceeding with what has become his characteristic style in Government - seeking a consensus.

The Prime Minister's offer tentatively outmanoeuvred Señor Manuel Fraga, the Opposition leader, in the debate. While Señor Fraga's party wants full military integration, some of its rank and file members, reflecting Spain's old fashioned nationalism, would still prefer to have nothing to do with Nato.

## Gairy's past threatens island future

In the second of two articles on Grenada after the US invasion, Christopher Thomas reports on the parties contesting the election on December 2.

In a large, pink house near the Governor-General's mansion above St George's, Sir Eric Gairy holds court. The paintwork is peeling, the guards are dozing in the dripping tropical heat, the iron gate is locked shut. The heavy silence belies the intensity of a comeback battle being waged by the white-suited man within.

When Sir Eric was Prime Minister of Grenada a lot of people were hurt by a group of thugs known as the Mongoose Gang. Sir Eric rejects the conventional belief that they were his bodyguards, his private security force, his paid enforcers. Or, indeed, that they existed at all.

"If you happen to find one person that was really and truly a secret police, a Mongoose

secret police, or any type of secret police, paid by myself or by my Government I'll give you half my properties," he promised.

"I mean, the whole thing was a myth and it was well packaged I would say and it went around the world nicely. I did not know myself as well as I did. I take my hat off to the communists."

Actually, it is not the communists who are trying to



US choice: Mr Blaize, leader of the coalition against Gulp, speaks to the people.

blacken Sir Eric's name. It is the Americans. The United States and most neighbouring Caribbean countries positively dread the eccentric Sir Eric regaining power. "It would be mud in our eye," a senior US official said. "We would have to reevaluate our policies."

That would mean ending aid funds, a threat that is being heard from Washington to St George's in an audible attempt to scuttle Sir Eric and his Grenada United Labour Party (Gulp). The threat is probably empty. The US has committed

itself too deeply to quit now. But the election of the ultra-right Sir Eric would create uncertainty in Washington and might prevent the development of long-term aid projects.

The fear is that Sir Eric's style of leadership would create a left-wing backlash and another coup. He was in New York to deliver his celebrated speech to the United Nations about LFOs when the leftist Maurice Bishop seized power on March 13, 1979.

Some of the late Mr Bishop's supporters still have guns

hidden away, which is why Sir Eric rarely moves from his rented, pink house. The campaign comes to him in long processions, day and night. He is not personally seeking one of the 15 parliamentary seats, doubtless because he wants to see how Gulp fares. If it does well he is expected to arrange a by-election for himself.

It is "the measures" that worry the US. Deny it as they do, there is no doubt that the Americans were influential in bringing about a coalition of

political groups in Grenada to fight Sir Eric, whose party is undoubtedly the single most popular party on the island.

Mr Blaize, leader of the coalition, is a popular figure among the middle classes; his performance as Prime Minister of Grenada in the 1960s is remembered both in London and Washington as competent, particularly in economic management. He lives 30 miles away on the sleepy Grenadian island of Carriacou.

Concluded

## Little cheer for Zambia after first 20 years

From Alfred Sayle, Lusaka

President Kaunda yesterday marked Zambia's 20 years of independence by laying the foundation stone of the new party headquarters in Independence Avenue, which will be built by the Chinese.

After two decades of self-rule, the country is undergoing one of its worst economic crises which seriously threatens its stability and the leadership. Debts are estimated at more than 4 billion Kwacha (£1.7 billion), foreign exchange reserves are almost exhausted and the nation has overdrawn its account with most, if not all, the commercial banks and financial institutions.

Since President Kaunda created a one-party state in 1972, corruption and inefficiency have produced a credibility gap between the party and people. There is a shortage of essentials such as milk, bread, cooking oil, soap and fuel.

Zambia has fared better in the industrial sector than in agriculture, where much has to be done before it can become self-sufficient in food.

Nevertheless, independence has been celebrated in style. Among the foreign heads of state in Lusaka yesterday were President Nyerere of Tanzania, President Machel of Mozambique, President Masire of Botswana, President Dos Santos of Angola, President Moi of Kenya and Mr Robert Mugabe, Zimbabwe's Prime Minister.

## Paupers and President on show for Princess

From Michael Hamlyn, Dhaka

Princess Anne, visiting Bangladesh to tour Save the Children Fund projects, came face to face with some of the most unhappy of the poorest people in the country yesterday. They were those who, working and children who were paralysed by having broken backs or necks.

In a country where the best the social services can do is to provide food for work, those paralysed like the inmates of the centre in Dhaka which she visited are usually condemned to a life of pitiful charity from their relatives. Standards of care are so low that many die from simple bedsores, and some - tiny children, especially girls - are just abandoned.

"Don't ask whether they fell from trees," the Director of the rehabilitation centre, Miss Valeri Taylor, said to the Princess, "ask what kind of tree they fell from." Most of the people in the beds of the centre kill while gathering fruit or fodder, although some have been injured by luggage being tossed from the top of a bus, or from carrying an extra heavy load of rice on their heads, which falls and snaps their necks. Two patients there yesterday had been injured by a charging bull.

The happiest of the patients in the centre was eight-year-old Jyoti, struggling to walk using parallel bars. With a pink ribbon in her hair and a yellow frock, she was showing off skills acquired since she has been adopted by Miss Taylor. Jyoti was abandoned by her parents outside the gate of a Cheshire

Home in Dhaka soon after her parents discovered she was a spastic.

The Princess also met young men and women beginning to learn some techniques, typing, perhaps, or woodwork, weaving or painting, which will enable them to earn some kind of money when they return to their villages.

Earlier in the day the Princess met the military dictator of Bangladesh, President and chief martial administrator Lieutenant General H M Ershad. The General greeted the Princess at the Presidential Palace, Bangabhaban, and later entertained her to dinner.

In the morning she went out into the countryside to lay a wreath on the Martyrs' memorial 12 miles from the centre of the capital. Her convoy of police vehicles and elegant limousines swept past fishermen wading waist deep in the flood waters of the Ganges, while square-rigged sailing boats were slowly punted alongside the elevated roadways.

Magenta and white lotus blossoms gladdened the grey of the river water, and the sharp-pointed silhouettes of the fighting boats made the poverty of the place picturesque.

The Princess laid a red and yellow wreath on the brick monument dominated by a soaring concrete pyramid formed out of seven interlocking isosceles triangular shapes. The memorial is on the site of a series of mass graves discovered after Bangladesh's fight for independence from Pakistan.

## Officers named in Aquino inquiry go on leave

From Keith Dalton, Manila

The head of the Philippines armed forces and the Manila police chief yesterday took temporary leave after they were linked by a commission of inquiry to the murder last year of the opposition leader, Benigno Aquino.

They were among 24 people named in the final 473-page report of four commission members who conducted a 10 months inquiry into the killing.

The fifth member of the commission, Mrs Corason Agrava, the chairman, in a dissenting report on Tuesday, overruled General Fabian Ver, the armed forces Chief of Staff, of complicity in the plot. Neither did she include Major-General Prospero Olivas, the

Metropolitan police chief, as one of the conspirators.

Included in both reports as a co-conspirator was General Luther Custodio, the former head of security at Manila airport where Mr Aquino was shot, according to the commission report, by one of six soldiers who escorted him from an aircraft on his return from exile in the United States. The escorts are among 22 military men and one civilian accused of the premeditated killing of Mr Aquino.

Instead of a court-martial, President Marcos has ordered that the case should go to a civil court which normally hears corruption charges against Government employees.

## Our men in Libya to be replaced

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

Mr George Anderson, who has been in charge of the British interests section in Libya since relations between the two countries were broken in April, is to return for leave and a fresh posting soon the Foreign Office said last night.

He is being succeeded by Mr Hugh Dunnachie, aged 39, whose foreign posting was in The Hague. A second appointment to replace Mr Redmond Norton, who returned from the section recently, will be announced soon.

The chief responsibility of the section remains the welfare of a number of Britons in custody in Libya, particularly four men detained without trial. There was no change in their position last night, although they receive visits from relatives and friends.

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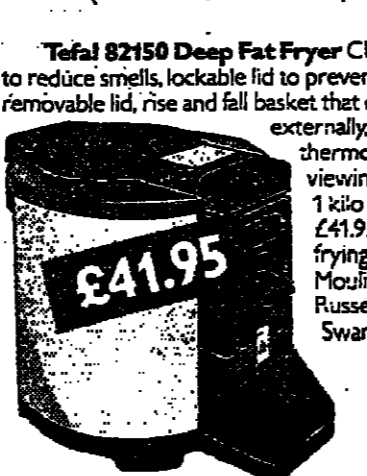
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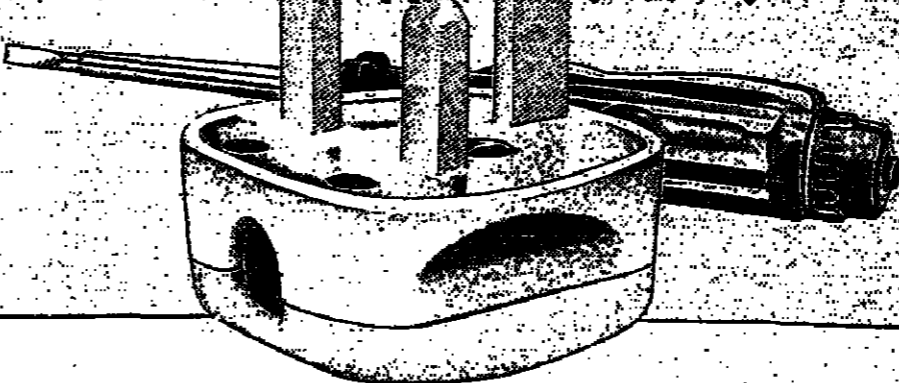
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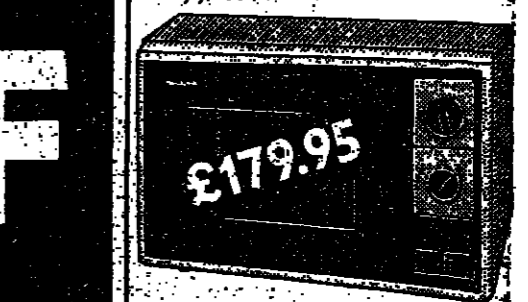
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## Slip rule does not save order without jurisdiction

**Munks v Munks and Another**  
Before Lord Justice Parker and Sir Roger Ormrod  
(Judgment delivered October 24)

An order made without jurisdiction which one party was entitled to have set aside, could not possibly be saved by the "slip rule" [Order 20, rule 1 of the Rules of the Supreme Court] or by the inherent jurisdiction of the court.

Although an order of a court of competent jurisdiction which was good on its face had to be treated as a valid order until it had been set aside, once the court's attention had been brought to the fact that the order was made without jurisdiction there was no alternative but to set it aside.

The Court of Appeal so held, allowing an appeal by the wife, Marjorie Anne Munks, from the judgment of Mr Justice Ewbank on May 2, 1984, who had amended a consent order made by a registrar on

February 9, 1973 before the decree nisi was pronounced to dismiss all the wife's claims for ancillary relief against her husband, Harold Rae Munks.

Mr Christopher Metcalf for the wife, Mr Christopher Butler for the husband.

SIR ROGER ORMROD, giving the reserved judgment of the court, said that the marriage had been dissolved by decree absolute on May 4, 1983, on the husband's petition under section (2) (a) of the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973. On September 12, 1983 the wife's solicitors issued a notice of application for ancillary relief under sections 23 and 24 of the 1973 Act.

The husband raised the plea of *res judicata*, on the basis of the consent order made on February 9, 1973, which purported to dismiss all the wife's claims for ancillary relief. The order also provided for the transfer of a car to the wife, the handing over

to her of her personal belongings and a bar on any application by her under the Inheritance Act 1975.

In reply, the wife contended that that consent order was "invalid" or "ineffective" for want of jurisdiction, since the registrar had made it before the decree nisi, pronounced on February 17, 1983.

The husband contended that the wife's only remedy was to appeal against the consent order or to challenge it by judicial review.

Mr Justice Ewbank, dealing with the matter as a preliminary issue, decided that the order as it stood was invalid because the power of the court to make orders for financial provision under sections 23 and 24 of the 1973 Act arose "on granting a decree of divorce . . . or at any time thereafter . . ." and not otherwise. However, he decided that the error could be corrected under the "slip rule" by amending the date of the consent order to February 17, 1983.

the date of the decree nisi. Given the wife appeared to have given her consent freely and after taking legal advice, it was appropriate to make the amendment under the slip rule. It was clear, his Lordship said, that the proceedings had got into a series of procedural tangles which had to be unravelled. There was no doubt that the registrar had had no jurisdiction to make the consent order because it was made before the decree nisi. However, it was well established that an order of the court of competent jurisdiction which was good on its face had to be treated as a valid order until it had been set aside. See *Essex v. Roberton* (1984) 3 W.L.R. 705.

However, the wife's remedy was not by way of appeal or judicial review, as the husband contended. Nor, as the wife had suggested, could the order be ignored. Moreover, an order made without jurisdiction which one party was entitled to have set aside, could not possibly be saved by the "slip rule" or by the inherent jurisdiction.

Once the court's attention was brought to the fact that the order was made without jurisdiction, there was no alternative but to set it aside. The fact that the order had been acted upon was irrelevant: it was well settled that jurisdiction could not be conferred by consent or estoppel. Moreover, any person who might be affected by such an order was entitled as of right to have it set aside.

From a practical point of view, the best course was therefore to allow the appeal and discharge the order of February 9, 1983, for "irregularity". It appeared to be a case of one technicality cancelling out another.

Solicitors: Gilbert Blades, Lincoln; Roythorne & Co. Spalding.

## When addition to property not in rent review

**Brett v The Brett Essex Golf Club Ltd**  
Before Judge John Finlay, QC  
(Judgment delivered October 19)

A golf clubhouse, erected with the landlord's permission but not under any obligation in the lease, was to be disregarded in determining the amount of rent under the review clause in the lease. Judge John Finlay, QC, sitting as a judge of the Chancery Division, stated.

In a lease for 50 years from July 9, 1973 there was a covenant by the tenant to lay out and discharge the golf course, with liberty to the tenant to erect at its own expense a clubhouse for the use of members and servants of the club.

The lease provided for a review of the yearly rent at stated intervals and was to be the rent which the tenant might reasonably be expected to fetch in the open market, there being disregarded (if applicable) the matters set out in section 34 (a) (ii) and (c) of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954.

Between about 1973 and 1977 the golf course was erected and in about 1975 the clubhouse was built. In a further lease for 50 years from February 14, 1978, which effected a surrender by operation of law of the 1973 lease, it was provided by clause 4 that the open market rental value required to be found as the basis of the reviewed rent should be found, *inter alia*, disregarding, if applicable, those matters set out in paragraphs (a) (ii) and (c) of section 34 of the 1954 Act.

The tenant now claimed that the effect of the creation of the clubhouse and the laying out of the golf course had to be taken into account in establishing the open market rental under clause 4 of the 1978 lease.

The tenant contended that any reviewed rent had to disregard the effect on rent of the clubhouse and the laying out of the golf course.

the laying out of the golf course; that the obligation in the 1973 lease to lay out the golf course had been discharged and the erection of the clubhouse was carried out, not pursuant to any obligation on the tenant, but by the lessee as a mere permission.

His Lordship held that notwithstanding amendments to section 34 of the 1954 Act by the Law of Property Act 1969, the clubhouse did not fall to be disregarded in determining the amount of the reviewed rent under clause 4 of the 1978 lease.

Mr Timothy Jennings for the tenant, Mr Alan Steinfield for the landlord.

HIS LORDSHIP said that the provision in the lease of the rent in clause 4 of the 1978 lease was in similar terms to that in the 1973 lease as to the ascertaining of the open market value and the disregarding (if applicable) of those matters set out in paragraphs (a) (ii) and (c) of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954.

The question that had arisen was whether that was a reference to the Act as originally enacted or as amended by section 1 of the Law of Property Act 1969.

The relevant paragraph, paragraph (c) of the 1954 Act, stated that there was to be disregarded "any effect on rent of any improvement carried out by the tenant or a predecessor in title of his otherwise than in pursuance of an obligation to his immediate landlord".

The improvements giving rise to the issue between the parties, that is, the erection of the clubhouse, and the laying out of the nine-hole golf course, were not carried out by the tenant during the currency of the 1978 lease. The 1954 Act, as amended by section 1 of the 1969 Act provided that the rent payable under section 34 (1) was to be such as might be determined to be that at which the holding might reasonably be expected to be let in the open market by a willing lessor, there being disregarded (i) any effect on rent of an improvement to which this paragraph applied, and then the following subsection was added:

"(2) Paragraph (c) . . . applies to any improvement carried out by a person who at the time it was carried out was the tenant, but only if it was carried out otherwise than in pursuance of an obligation to his immediate landlord . . . and subsection (2) contained further qualifications, and conditions which had to be satisfied.

The amendment to section 34 of the 1954 Act appeared to have been enacted in the light of the decision in the *Wanderland* case ((1965) AC 68), where improvements had been effected by the appellant company in 1926 under a tenancy which had expired prior to the grant of a new lease in 1938.

The House of Lords there held that paragraph (c) in section 34(1) of the 1954 Act referred only to improvements carried out by the tenant making the application for the tenancy and effected during the term of the tenancy current when the application was made; or by a predecessor in title of his to the same tenancy and that work carried out by the company in 1926 should not be disregarded.

Then came the amending provisions of the 1969 Act. There appeared to be no direct authority on the question whether, in a reference to a lease granted after 1969, section 34 of the 1954 Act had to be construed as a reference to the Act as originally passed or, as amended, but in *Easton Centre Properties Ltd v. J. Wilson Ltd* ((1962) 262 EG 1079) Mr Justice Cantley, dealing with a lease granted in 1973 containing a provision that there should be disregarded "any of the matters referred to in section 34

(a) (ii) and (c) of the Act of 1954", assumed (as did counsel) that that was a reference to the 1954 Act as amended in 1969 but nothing had been said on the assumption. In any event, that tenant had not been the tenant at the appropriate time, but only a licensee.

Without any authority other than those two cases it had been submitted for the landlord that the references in the lease to the 1954 Act as originally enacted, while it was said for the lessee that the reference was to the Act as amended in 1969 so that the clubhouse would fall to be disregarded because erected within 21 years of the relevant review of rent; alternatively, the lease had said the effect of the words in clause 4 of the 1978 lease was simply to incorporate the words from the 1954 Act and, in doing that, the decision of the House of Lords in the *Wanderland* case was of no assistance in determining the significance of the words, the result being that once again the clubhouse would fall to be disregarded in considering the improvements made by the tenant.

The words in clause 4(1) of the 1978 lease were that the expression open market value meant a sum in relation to the review period "determined in manner hereinafter provided as being . . . the annual rental value of the demised premises . . . upon the supposition (if not a fact) that the tenant has complied with the obligations as to repair and decoration herein imposed on the tenant such lease and conditions . . . and disregarding (if applicable) those matters set out in paragraphs (a) (ii) and (c) of section 34 of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954".

Notwithstanding that Mr Justice Cantley assumed, without decision, (no doubt because the assumption was made by counsel) that very similar words were to be treated as referring to the 1954 Act as amended, the court had come to the conclusion that, construed according to the ordinary canons of construction, those words referred to the Act as originally enacted.

What then was the true construction of paragraph (c) in section 34 of the 1954 Act when incorporated in the 1978 lease? The words of paragraph (c), when incorporated in the lease, did not necessarily have the same significance as they had as part of the statute. In the Act, they occurred in a provision dealing with applications for new leases; and in the context of a current lease the lessee who was making such an application.

When incorporated in the lease, they had to be construed in accordance with the ordinary canons of construction; and in particular having regard to the "matrix of facts" in the tenancy which had expired prior to the grant of a new lease in 1938.

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## Special commissioners can adjust corporation tax assessment

**Owton Fens Properties Ltd v Redden (Inspector of Taxes)**  
Before Mr Justice Vinelott  
(Judgment delivered October 23)

An assessment to corporation tax which, in computing the total profits of a company misdescribed the source of that company's income, could be adjusted and increased, to take into account different kinds of income arising from other sources.

Mr Justice Vinelott so held, in the Chancery Division, in dismissing an appeal by the taxpayer company, Owton Fens Properties Ltd, from the special commissioners' determination that an assessment to corporation tax made on it for its accounting period to March 1973 and stated to be in respect of "building society interest and dividends", was not an invalid assessment and should be adjusted notwithstanding that the company's only taxable

income for the relevant period was of a different kind.

In November 1973 an estimated assessment to corporation tax of £8,000 was raised on the taxpayer company erroneously showing a figure on the prescribed CT4 form against the heading "building society interest and dividends". The figure should have been shown against the heading "Schedule A". Additionally the form did not show any amount in respect of chargeable gains that had accrued to the taxpayer company during the accounting period but which at the time were unknown to the inspector of taxes.

The taxpayer company immediately appealed against the assessment on the ground that the assessment was not in accordance with the accounts or information that was shortly to be sent to the tax inspector and which showed Schedule A income of £4,151 and chargeable gains of £28,406.

The matter there came to rest for some years, the estimated assessment remaining open and undetermined. In May 1983 the appeal came before the commissioners for hearing when the taxpayer company contended that under section 250 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970 (ICTA 1970) an assessment to corporation tax on the prescribed form CT4 could validly charge to tax only income or gains which were licitly under the headings on that form and that although section 50(7) of the Taxes Management Act 1970 enabled the commissioners on appeal to increase the amount of income from a specified source, it did not enable them to add income from a new source. Accordingly it was the taxpayer company's case that the assessment was bad and should be discharged. The commissioners declined to do so and increased the amount of the assessment to £31,634.

Section 250(3) of the ICTA 1970 provided that for the purposes of corporation tax income should be computed, and the assessment should be made, under the like Schedule and Cases as applied to those Schedules and Cases, but "the amounts so computed for the several sources of income, if more than one, together with any amount to be included in respect of chargeable gains, shall be aggregated to arrive at the total profits".

Mr C. W. Koenigsberger for the taxpayer company; Mr Robert Carnwath for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE VINELOTT said that the short answer to the taxpayer company's case was that the provisions of the ICTA 1970 (sections 238, 243, 247 and 250) required that in the case of a company all chargeable income and chargeable gains for a given accounting period be computed in one assessment. An appeal against

that was an appeal against the amount of corporation tax in an assessment.

Once an appeal was lodged the assessment was at large until determined by the commissioners under section 50(6) of the Taxes Management Act 1970. In the case of a corporation tax assessment it was the amount of total profits for the relevant period that was under appeal.

If the taxpayer company was right a specific source of income had to be determined and no machinery would exist for bringing before the commissioners the whole amount of corporation tax. Nor would there be machinery for determining, for example, group relief.

The commissioners' determination was correct and the appeal was dismissed.

Solicitors: Tilly Bailey & Irvine, Hartlepool; Solicitor of Inland Revenue.

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Every week hundreds of thousands of advertisements appear for the first time.

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One rule in our Code states, 'Advertisements should contain nothing which is likely, in the light of generally prevailing standards of decency and propriety, to cause grave or widespread offence.'

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Although the phrase is of biblical origin, it has slipped into common usage as a metaphor for the sceptical.

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What is 'justifiable' and what isn't?

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We might regard an ad acceptable if it showed how a widow and her children were able to survive on the proceeds of her deceased husband's life assurance.

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If we decide there has been a breach of any rules we ask the advertiser to amend the advertisement. If he cannot, or refuses, we ask him to withdraw it completely.

Nearly all agree without further argument.

In any case we inform the publishers, who will not knowingly accept any ad which we have decided contravenes the Code.

If the advertiser refuses to withdraw the advertisement he will find it hard if not impossible to have it published.

### CAN ADVERTISERS PUSH US AROUND.

The ASA was not created by law and has no legal powers. Not unnaturally some people are sceptical about its effectiveness.

In fact the ASA was set up by the advertising business to make sure the system of self control genuinely worked in the public interest.

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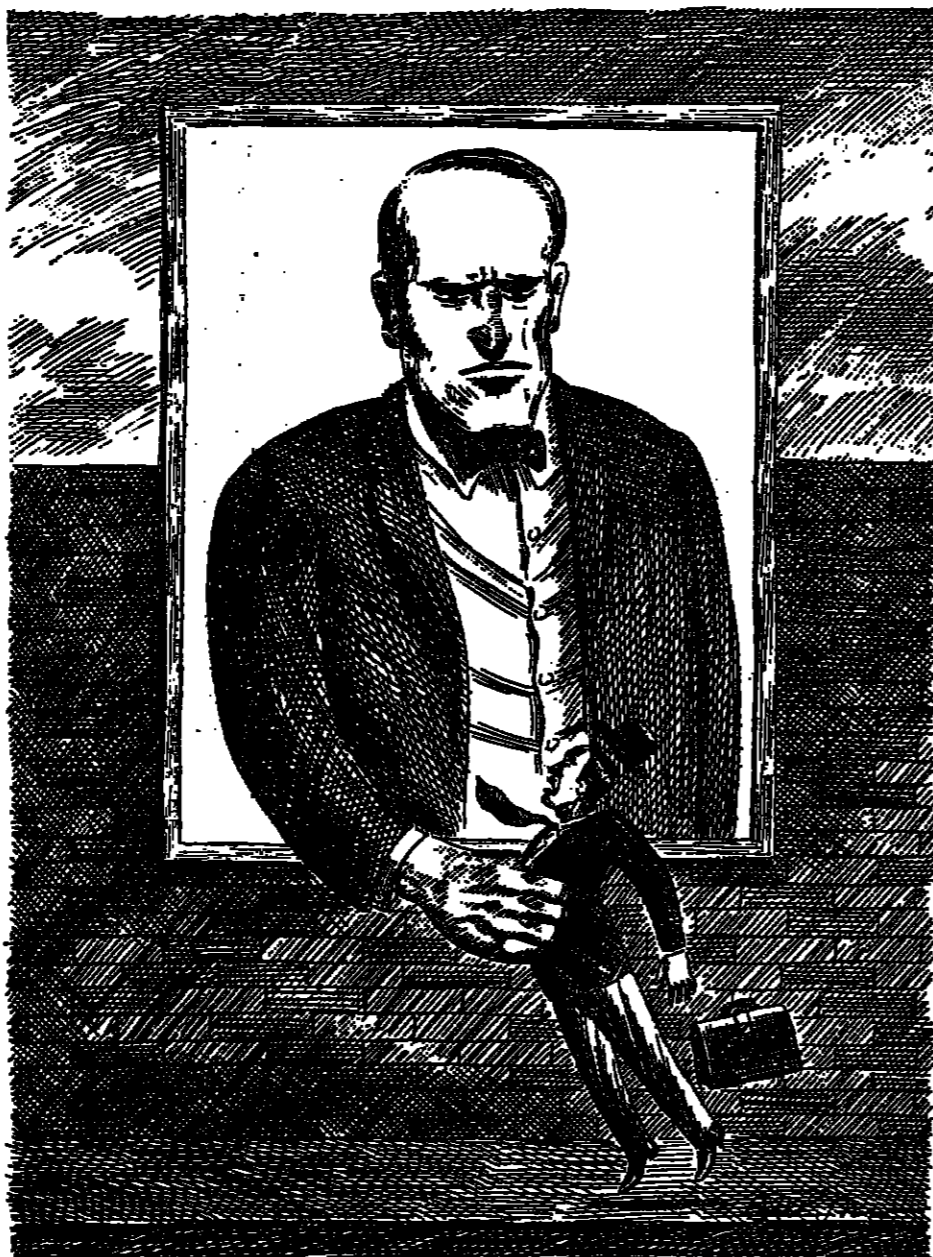
Though administrative costs are met by a levy on the business, no advertiser has any influence over ASA decisions.

Advertisers are aware it is as much in their interests as the public's to uphold advertising standards.

If you would like to know more about the ASA and the rules it seeks to enforce you can write to us at the address below for an abridged copy of the Code.

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## THE ARTS

## Theatre

## Illuminating return to basics

Tramway Road  
Lyric, Hammersmith

As a South African émigré who has done very nicely for himself in the old country, Ronald Harwood may not be an ideal commentator on the present realities of apartheid; but he is well placed to turn the tables on the self-righteous British and ask how courageous a showing we would have made as émigrés to Daniel Malan's lily-white fortress.

*Tramway Road* takes its title from a (now demolished) coloured ghetto in the suburbs of Cape Town, and shows a middle-aged London couple undergoing a crisis of conscience in the year after the Population Registration Act, 1950.

Relating to the country as Harwood remembers it, the piece makes an illuminating return to basics, through the lives of two people who share the unthinking racial prejudices of the period, but who are unprepared for the new realities of apartheid.

The plot turns on the fate of Emil, a Cape Coloured boy, whose future depends on getting a travel grant to a London theatre school. It is well into the first act before we realize that he has any problem other than the vowels which his teacher, Arthur, is

trying to bring up to RADA standards. The lesson has its tensions, as Arthur - a seedy old public-schoolmaster - dotes on him as a substitute son; while Arthur's wife - a failed opera singer - resents the relationship as a *folie à deux* which is distracting Arthur from her own problems.

We then learn that Emil is about to undergo reclassification and once the lesson is over we never see him again. By the second act he has been declared a non-European and his chances of reaching London or even keeping his present job are torn away and, as an ultimate betrayal, Arthur has cravenly severed contact with his beloved protégé.

The quality of the play is extremely uneven. The first act is heavily diagrammatic, contrasting the enthusiastic teacher-pupil passages with the wife's brutal and narcissistic interruptions, so as to drive them into opposite corners: Arthur as a vain (and possibly homosexual) old silly and the *Mikado*-singing mumsib as on the verge of going bonkers.

These sledgehammer tactics leave you utterly unprepared for the delicacy and emotional control of the second act, where Arthur returns to the flat in a daze of guilt, panic and loss to be confronted by a wife who

firmly takes the boy's side, even though she never liked him.

*Tramway Road* is essentially a two-character play. In the presence of Emil or the black houseboy, it becomes crudely polarized. But, when the couple are left to themselves, the dialogue stops making authorial points and unfolds as naturally as breathing: conveying the shared sense of affection and resentment, a long-shared past of small failures, humiliations and exile, and the realization of two essentially kind people that kindness is not enough. "You are despicable", the wife finally declares at the climax of a drunken post-mortem on Arthur's treachery; and then kisses him on the top of the head.

David Jones's production deals tactfully with the play's incompatibilities, particularly in the casting of Richard E. Grant's Emil, a neutral figure who can be equally viewed through the eyes of either partner. The couple themselves receive highly charged and rigorously unsentimentalized performances from Annette Crosbie and Freddie Jones: two confused little Englishers in print dress and crumpled alpaca encountering a worse trial than they ever faced in the Blitz.

Irving Wardle



Highly charged but unsentimental: Annette Crosbie, Freddie Jones

Television  
A dubious relation to facts

There is a little too much emphasis on historical reconstruction in *Bookmark* (BBC 2), which is perhaps television's equivalent of the sociological literary criticism that was once so popular in university courses. The item on J. G. Ballard's most recent novel, for example, concentrated too much on its relation to the "effects" and, therefore, with the best of intentions, gave the impression that Ballard had engaged in some form of *letradosman* rather than written a brilliantly imaginative novel. Nevertheless this is a serious and interesting programme: Bryan Appleyard's film about *Mr Noon*, the novel which D. H. Lawrence abandoned in 1922, even managed against the odds to make that book sound interesting.

In at the Deep End (BBC 1) is devoted to the illusion that ordinary people (in last night's case, Paul Heiney) are undertaking odd or extraordinary tasks; what we get, of course, are television "personalities" pretending to be ordinary in order to entertain the public. So it was that Mr Heiney decided to become a film actor, going through what must have been a lightning course at RADA and interviewing as many celebrities as he could find *en route*.

The result is not so much fun as it is clearly supposed to be. The audience may pick up some extraneous and quite useless information - how to mimic anger and to adopt an Eastern European accent - but the point of the enterprise was otherwise difficult to understand, unless it was the spectacle of nice Mr Heiney trying to "make the transition from 'personality' to actor; but, in that case, he was travelling in quite the wrong direction, especially since he was supposed to be playing a villain.

The illusion which is being fostered, that Mr Heiney is in the position of the "little man", trying to make it on his own, is so obviously preposterous that the point of the programme is rather lost in a sequence of self-conscious or self-congratulatory scenes. It was just another occasion when the "media" congratulates itself, and it was as a result rather embarrassing.

Peter Ackroyd

## The Tales of Hoffmann

Guildhall, Portsmouth

This week and next the Cambridge Opera Group take to the road in preparation for their transformation next year into the Touring Opera Group, under the very promising artistic direction of Simon Halsey and Graham Vick. Their intention is to continue giving small-scale works, like the Britten and Davies pieces with which they won renown, but to present also adaptations of full-blown opera for reduced circumstances - the kind of thing the Welsh National tried a couple of years ago with their *Dracula*.

The comparison is perhaps unfair: the COG *Tales of Hoffmann* is less pretentious than that enterprise, and considerably more successful, for which some of the credit should

## Opera in Britain

go to Offenbach. An opera never completed needs some work to be done on it, and it is better the work be conscious, impelled by some view of the piece, than that conductor and producer should accept traditional solutions. It also helps when practical considerations, such as the reduction of the orchestra and the elimination of chorus and dancers, can be encouraged to coincide with an interpretation of what the piece is about, or simply with theatrical effectiveness.

This happens. It is a nice point, for instance, that the barcarole should turn out to be emanating from a cassette player that Hoffmann and his fellow revellers are lounging around. On a deeper level, the orchestration of the score for a 16-piece band puts the music back in the pit of an operetta theatre (though Offenbach would have been lucky to be faced with such a talented group of young musicians), and the way is opened for the opera to

be seen as working in the gap between an artist's dream and reality. Mr Vick brings this essence out by adding to the dialogue of the Antonia and Giulietta acts, and by situating the opera in a lumber-room of the mind.

It takes strong dramatic talent and untroubled singing to survive in this coldly exposed, sombre limbo, and at the moment, Maria Juszak as Niklaus is the only one who fully inhabits the world Mr Vick has created for the opera. But there is much attractive singing from John Oakman, who only needs to make his Hoffmann more definite, less peevish. Margaret Perry is sweet as the heroine, and Robert Dean makes each satanic *alter ego* a confident study in villainy. This is not, as the advertising warns, a purist's *Tales of Hoffmann*, but it will suit those who want some insight into Offenbach's great ambition and a lively night in the theatre.

Paul Griffiths

## Opera in the United States

## Diamond in plastic

The main event of the first month of San Francisco's autumn season has been the decision of the General Director, Terence McEwen, to recreate, in so far as practical, the 1833 London version of Bellini's *La Sonnambula*. On that occasion Bellini's chaste, sleepwalking nightingale was sung by Malibran, who was basically a coloratura mezzo-soprano; the part of Amina was adjusted to fit her range. Bellini, who went to London to hear her, anticipated and by all accounts to some degree experienced, the worst. "Words fail me to express how my poor music was massacred, torn to shreds, flayed by these Englishmen", he wrote. But Malibran's mezzo-Amina he adored.

Mr McEwen, a student and devotee of nineteenth-century *bel canto* divas, once talked about reviving the Malibran *Sonnambula* with his own early mentors, Bidu Sayao and Jennie Tourel. In Frederica von Stade, who came to San Francisco, he decided he had found his angel. As McEwen traded ideas with Miss von Stade, with a couple of critics and with the conductor Nicolò Rescigno, a version of this once-popular showpiece was contrived that involved a minimal rewriting of Bellini's first published edition of the score: Two of Amina's numbers were transposed down a tone, another by a minor-third.

The result was a diamond of the first water, set, alas, in cheap plastic. Miss von Stade, absent from our opera stage for eight years, returned in triumph, in a role that perfectly suits her fragile delicacy and exquisite vocal control. Her instrument is sweet and pure, with a very rapid vibrato, a gorgeous low register and a meticulous concern for breathing, shadings and style. She dealt with the intricately ornamented repeats

Paul Griffiths

(some of them Malibran's own inventions) in an unforced, altogether natural manner, especially in the sentimental last-act "Ah non creda". Singing of this intelligence, craft and quality can sustain even the silliest of operas, in the cheapest of productions.

And this production (from Seattle, directed by Brian Macdonald) did look patchy and thin. False-naïve Swiss villagers forever milled about painted-flat sets, breaking into ballet or song for no reason. Samuel Ramey was a handsome and nobly resonant Count Rodolfo. But Dennis O'Neill seemed to have dropped out of another operatic world entirely. He was the caricature Italian *tenore robusto*, shouting, reaching, ringing, throbbing, while his wronged light-of-love sailed off on her flawless coloratura flights. Mr McEwen now wants to resurrect, for a world premiere performance, Bellini's "Malibran" version of *I Puritani* in San Francisco. Sung with the style and finesse of Miss von Stade's Amina, it should be joyful as well as historic.

The autumn season, otherwise rather sparse, was to have opened with an all-star *Ernani* (Pavarotti, Caballé, Milnes, Plishka). But the endangered health of one of his daughters forced Signor Pavarotti to leave in mid-rehearsal. His next-to-last-minute replacement, Nunzio Todisco, not only sounded sadly second-rate himself, he also appeared to drag down a less-than-thrilling Montserrat Caballé. Paired with Pavarotti, and aided by a more sensitive conductor (Lamberto Gardelli) led the orchestra like a runaway park carousel, she might have fared better. The whole production was a dismaying recollection of the crude pre-war versions of Italian opera we once put up with, salvaged by masterful singing from Sherrill Milnes (Don Carlo) and an altogether compelling creation of Gomez de Silva by Paul Plishka: an island of intelligence in a sea of mediocrity.

David Littlejohn

## London debuts

## Drawing out depths

The presence of Yehudi Menuhin as soloist with the London Philharmonic in the Barbican concert in memory of David Oistrakh ensured a capacity audience for the London debut of the 35-year-old Chinese conductor Mubai Tang. He has studied in the West for only one year, but already divides his time pretty equally between Shanghai and Berlin, where he is the protégé of Herbert von Karajan.

The Bruch Violin Concerto certainly put him through his paces. Menuhin's is now a deeply subjective, heavily emotional reading, and Mr Tang had to concentrate every second on its almost improvisatory ebb and flow, particularly in the Adagio, and still find a poise, a discipline to contain the performance as a whole. For the most part he succeeded.

He has a way, not dissimilar from Simon Rattle's, of drawing out deep, broad-breathing phrases from his body of strings, and of complementing expansion with taut, finely-pointed rhythms and tapering

phrases. His main weakness, which showed in the orchestral accompaniment to the Bruch and was confirmed in the Tchaikovsky "Pathétique", lies in pacing.

His is a typically Chinese approach to Western music: warm, close and romantic. When this leads him, as it did in the Tchaikovsky, to an extreme drawing back of tempo, not always balanced by sufficient inner intensity of ensemble, then some impetus is lost, and the work's organic energy sapped. This was particularly noticeable in the outer movements, where a tendency to rely on the autonomous propulsion of rhapsodic melody was counterbalanced by somewhat erratic bursts of urging. While details of scale still have to settle, then, there is a liveliness of imagination, a keenness of temperament and a healthy panache in his music-making which, in this repertoire at least, enables him to stand confidently on his own.

Hilary Finch

## Arditti Quartet

Wigmore Hall

The appetite of the Arditti Quartet for challenges seems boundless. On Tuesday they smiled at the difficulties of Roberto Gerhard, whose two quartets framed their recital in lucid performances. In between they offered a 20-minute selection of movements from Boulez's *Le Livre pour quatuor* than which nothing could be more testing (even the Alban Berg Quartet last season were wary of venturing beyond the short first movement). And, as if that were not enough, they played a brand new quartet by James Wood, it was a programme that might have exhausted the audience, if

## Concert

not the players, had it not had such zip.

The new Wood Quartet is an adventurous departure from a composer who has had most success in fields where he is active as a performer; percussion and choral music. But he has managed to keep his bold gift for new sounds. There are passages that bear through slides with all the live energy of Xenakis, whose influence is suggested too by the combination of bristling, complex textures with strong, simple tunes and pounding rhythms that come from ethnic music: Wood has admitted the importance, unusual in a quartet, of dance music from Asia and the Caribbean.

One reflection of that is his use of a pentatonic scale, but a rather individual one; the usual

major seconds are contracted to minor ones, and the other intervals opened out to quarter-tone-flattened fourths. One effect of this is to make for a lot of intervals just a quarter-tone up or down from a tritone, which is not a very nice place to be. The sound-world is often therefore sour and thin, while the form is vigorously stamped out in chunks.

The Boulez, though, was good to hear in every way. The Arditti tend to want to get things moving, but they were excellent in exploring the fine-drawn stillnesses of this music, where flashes of detail come and go and yet the picture stays the same. Beauty here is easy to achieve, though not the fierce concentration that makes an almost decadent sustained gracefulness appear hard and of desperate importance.

Paul Griffiths

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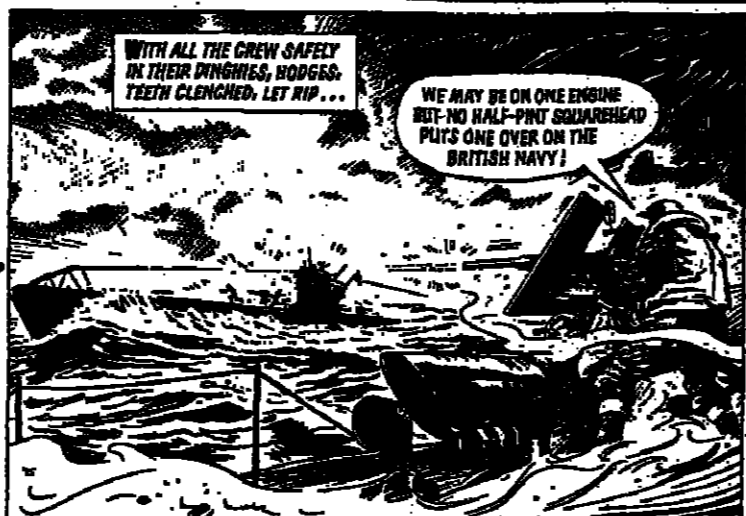
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## SPECTRUM

## Pillars of wisdom on the move

The Times Profile:  
The British Library

Earlier this year, on a fine spring morning, readers sitting dozing or deep in study in the famous domed Reading Room of the British Library found themselves brusquely evicted from their handsome blue leather desks.

An industrial dispute had reduced the number of staff to fewer than the 50 people needed to run it: the library decided it had to close. The readers, many of them lifelong habitués of the building, stood for a while blinking resentfully on the steps of the British Museum, like night animals thrust into hateful daylight. Eventually, shaking their heads sorrowfully, they shuffled off.

The British Library, and in particular the round Reading Room so beloved of Marx, Lenin, Gibbon, Thackeray (who declared it filled his heart with "grateful reverence"), Thomas Hardy and George Bernard Shaw (who loved it so well he donated some of his royalties to the museum) has become more than work for many of those who use it.

The British Library is 11 years old this year. The readers scarcely noticed when an Act of Parliament chose to give its seal of approval, on July 1, 1972, to a proposal to separate the library from the British Museum, and bring all library services - bibliographical, reference, lending, research and

unless something were done quickly many books were liable to disintegrate and decay. By responding the library is signalling its firm intention to pursue modern times.

Just over two and a quarter centuries ago, the British Museum Act of 1753 created the first state library open to the public in Britain and provided a room in which "all studious and curious Persons" could sit.

Readers, of rather little importance in the early days, were moved seven times before finding a permanent home in the domed Reading Room in 1857 under the aegis of possibly the most inspired of the British Museum's librarians, Antonio Panizzi (later knighted).

The collection in Bloomsbury has around 10 million volumes, and fills 215 miles of shelving. As a national copyright library, it automatically receives a copy of everything printed, whether a new book, the sixteenth reprint of a best-selling novel, or the parish magazine.

The library also collects systematically from abroad, to increase collections first developed in the nineteenth century. The result is that the library is growing at the rate of some 500,000 items a year - or at the speed of two miles of shelving.

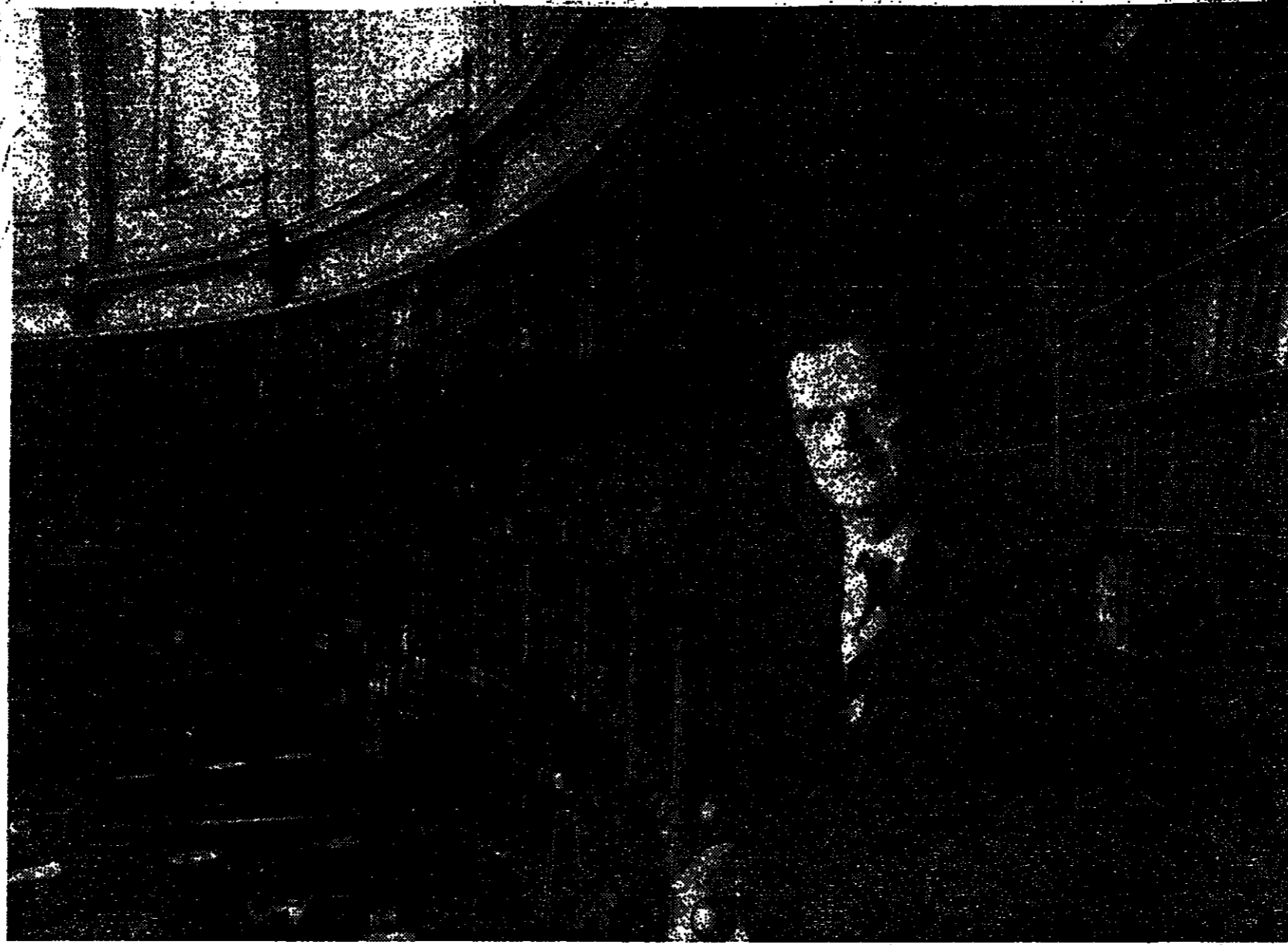
The library, like some gigantic cultural sponge, has been absorbing and shedding parts of its functions and collections. In 1825, its paintings went to the National Gallery. In 1905 its newspapers and periodicals moved to Colindale.

In much the same period, it built up a unique philatelic collection, now numbering more than six million stamps, as well as becoming Britain's leading library for the natural sciences, technology and industrial property.

The Reading Room and the printed books are the library's best known feature, but other departments are of considerable importance. The lending division, in Boston Spa, is a sort of literary factory, lending and photocopying at the rate of thousands of applications a day; the research and development division conducts advanced research into the future of libraries.

Plans began shortly after the Second World War for an expanded library to house these many new acquisitions, and to absorb the seemingly unstoppable deluge of new material. A first suggestion proposed enlarging both museum and library in all four directions. Then came an idea to build a new library opposite in Great Russell Street and Bloomsbury Square, linked by underground passages to the Reading Room. Local residents put a stop to that.

It was only after a committee



Thinking ahead: Sir Harry Hookway in the Reading Room; "the choice is between move and rot away"

of inquiry under Sir Fred Dainton recommended in 1969 the administrative separation of library and museum that the way seemed finally clear for a second, this time geographical move to a new site to incorporate in one place what is now dispersed in 19 buildings.

In 1978, Mrs Shirley Williams, then Secretary of State for Education and Science, approved the building of a new library on a 9½-acre former goods yard next to St Pancras Station. Two years and a new administration later, fresh assurances were sought and given by Norman St John-Stevas, Minister for the Arts under Mrs Thatcher at the time.

In 1982, with a budget of £88m agreed for a first stage of foundations and basements 30 metres deep, work began. The British Library is generally agreed to be one of the three great libraries of the world, together with the Lenin Library in Leningrad and the Library of Congress in Washington. What is more, says the staff, it is now running remarkably well - at least for the public.

The first decade has seen the

introduction of valuable new technology, and a conscious opening-out of a previously somewhat insular institution. The first chief executive, Sir Harry Hookway, who retired recently, deemed it one of his main successes that the library has become "outward looking, nationally and internationally". Readers get better service than ever before.

As long as the research constitutes a "genuine need", and the would-be reader is not a student under 21, for whom libraries are assumed to exist elsewhere, a ticket is not difficult to obtain. About 84 per cent of the books requested are said by Mr Ken Gibson, head of public services, delivered to desks within an hour.

The eccentric, who wander and mutter along the stacks, are agreeably nurtured. "We try not to stop anyone," says Mr Gibson. "We do have some very elderly readers whose academic work is long over, but we have not yet withdrawn anyone's ticket on geriatric grounds."

The need for space had been obvious for years, and more and

more has been "outhoused" in warehouses around London but it took a report produced in 1975 to reveal just how vulnerable the British Library collection had actually become.

Dr David Clements, head of a new department of preservation, explains that \$50,000 of the books were published before 1800. "We discovered that a quarter of those needed binding repairs and half de-acidification. Since the middle of the nineteenth century books have been published on wood pulp paper, with a life of 10 to 100 years. 'So where do you start?' This building has no air conditioning, enormous condensation, and there are parts where glass roofing brings the temperature to 100°F."

In workshops behind the museum craftsmen and women bind, repair, stitch and de-acidify at the rate of 3,000 volumes

a week and £6m a year. None of it is more than cosmetic.

"Only in a constant temperature and with low humidity can the rate of decay be slowed down", says Dr Clements.

Faced with emotional jibbing at the move to St Pancras, Sir Harry points out, somewhat tartly: "We will all shed a tear - but the choice is between move and rot away."

Some years ago, when the exodus to the goods yard seemed inevitable, a committee was set up by Lord Thomas to "save the Reading Room". Members include Lord Kennet, Kingsley Amis, Sir Isaiah Berlin, Jonathan Miller, Iris Murdoch and Concor Cruise O'Brien.

The move, they argue, is absurdly expensive (some £300m to £600m in all), ill-researched (usage, far more than

conditions, harms books) and unnecessary.

British Library staff are understandably reluctant to enter a discussion on the subject, but they do admit to some anxiety about the timing of the plans.

To make the size of the scheme more palatable it has always been assumed that it would be completed bit by bit, phase by phase, with adjustments to plans by successive library boards and governments. Of the seven distinct phases only the first, IAA - foundations, basements and some superstructure - has been agreed, at £88m. It is what happens next, and what confusion may be generated by staffing, that is causing concern.

"In the short term, we need government commitment to complete stage IAB", says Sir Harry. "That will take part of the department of painted books and the science reference

## 1983: A YEAR IN 'THE LIFE OF THE BRITISH LIBRARY'

Holdings: 15m volumes  
Staff: 2,417  
Grant-in-aid: £42,950,000  
Revenue: £9,918,000  
Readers: Academic: 52%; Post-graduate: 29%; White: 10%; Book applications: 588,500  
Seats in Bloomsbury: 875  
New building: Phase 1 AA: cost allocated: £88m; completion: 1990/91. Phase 1 AB: cost requested: £50-£60m; completion: mid-1990s. Phase 1B & 1C: cost: ?; completion: ?

library. But in one sense that would be the worst of all worlds, with the department of printed books split and storage everywhere.

"What we really hope for is to complete all phase one - to take in reading rooms, books and staff all in one place."

Such reassurance is not likely to be forthcoming. "In the next 12 months", says a spokesman for the Office of Arts and Libraries, "We'll be making a decision about IAB, 1B and 1C will have to wait." The cost of completing 1A alone is put at between £30m and £60m.

When Sir Harry, a genial former civil servant and scientist who refers to himself as a "renegade scholar", was named first chief executive of the British Library, there was, he says, "consternation".

His successor, Mr Kenneth Cooper, is also a former civil servant, having come last month to the library from the Manpower Services Commission. "But this time", says Sir Harry, "there have been no complaints".

His point is that in just 10 years opinion has shifted strongly away from the tradition of pure scholar librarian to a more proper understanding of the need for good managers able to combine scholarship with comprehension of the new technology. In keeping with this Mr Cooper has said the library will soon produce a corporate plan.

Certainly, the demands on library staff now go well beyond those of pure scholarship. More than most institutions, the British Library is at an instant of change, as people ponder what they call the questionable "dinosaur syndrome", with material accumulating without pause. They wonder whether the future may not hold the pattern of some libraries in America which see themselves as "community resource centres" with lists of local car pools and bus schedules.

As for the "studious and curious Persons" who made up the library's first readers, they would be bemused indeed by the microfiche and on-line retrieval systems.

Caroline Moorehead

## 'It is a day time home, a refuge from the outside world'

publishing - under one separate and distinct administration, in and around Bloomsbury (with the exception of the lending division, which remains in Yorkshire, and the newspapers, still at Colindale).

They cannot, however, fail to notice that the British Library is making strenuous efforts to move altogether from its present site to a new building among the great Victorian railway stations of the Euston Road. This event once accomplished, (if not once, say sceptics) will out for ever the regulars from their Round Room desks. Not surprisingly, the move is being greeted with mistrust and dislike.

Nor should they miss the library's announcement this morning that it is to set up a National Preservation Office - the first of its kind - to act as adviser to all British libraries and to stimulate and promote good practices of conservation. In March the Ratcliffe report revealed that libraries all over Britain were facing a crisis:

There are some areas of design and planning which have hardly known a fresh idea in thirty years. Cinema posters, football match advertisements, National anthems, Whisky bottle labels. Above all, topographical postcards - those terrible things you send home from holiday, taking all the message space to explain to your friends that the place is not nearly as bad as the garish, flat, overcrowded photo on the other side suggests. The impulse of the postcard maker seems to be the same as that of diary manufacturers - to cram in as much boring, obvious detail as possible and print it as unhelpfully as possible. If postcard designers could get the Tower of London in the same photo as Buckingham Palace, they would.

## moreover... Miles Kingdon

Fresh back from Greece for the first time, I have wonderful news. The Greeks have made the long-awaited breakthrough. They still have the dreadful old cards, of course, crammed full of Ionic columns against a sky the colour of blue plastic carrier bags, but side by side, on different stands, they have a display of the most wonderful photographs never to get into an art gallery, in stunning colour, positively reeking of the joy felt by the photographer in finding the picture and often signed by the artist himself.

When this started, I do not know. Where is easier: the bulk of the pictures come from

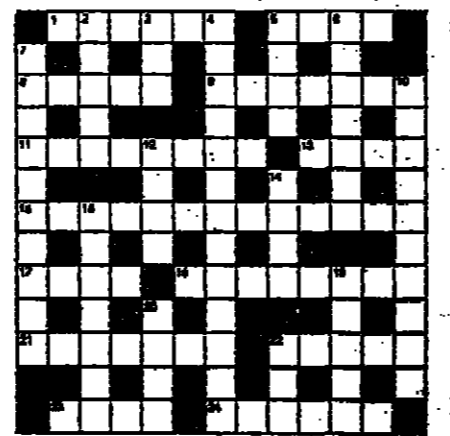
of the blinding white wall say as much about the sun and the rocks, the aridity and greenness, as a dozen wide angle views could hope to. The artist, Yiorgos Depollas, also has a close-up picture of a side of a boat - so close up that the sun-blistered strips of paint become an abstract painting, with only the grain of the wood to indicate it is not a painting.

The playfulness is terrific. Among the pictures I bought but could not bear to send are those of the feet of basket-weavers, the head of a priest from behind, a faded portrait of the King and Queen of Greece on a shabby parlour wall, the prow of a fishing boat like a great painted seagull, two musicians grumpily tuning up, the very top of a church apparently floating over the sea like a round white UFO and a weirdly surreal scene of a man in a black suit.

It's only a small revolution, of course, no bigger than the moment when calendars first became interesting or record sleeves went airy. But as with all, evendie revolutions, the relief is terrific: the smell of fresh air is wonderful. English postcards next, perhaps? There are some good ones around already. The trouble is, they are all sepia photographs taken in the last century.

## CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 478)

ACROSS  
1 Be present (6)  
5 Despairing exhalation (4)  
8 Dynamite inventor (5)  
9 Unimaginative (7)  
11 Spell (8)  
12 Cleave (4)  
13 Clerk's mistake (8,5)  
17 Binding strip (4)  
18 Bell sound (4,4)  
21 Intrude on (7)  
22 Excellent (5)  
23 Dart (4)  
24 Inset material (6)  
DOWN  
2 Fleishy root (5)  
3 Snake-like fish (3)  
4 Embassy mail sack (10,3)  
5 Chimney deposit (4)  
6 Alluring charm (7)  
7 Unattuned (10)  
10 Assemble (10)  
12 Labour (4)  
13 Chinese premier (4)  
14 Tabitha (5)  
15 Ignore (6)  
16 Disclosure (7)  
19 Egg-shaped (5)  
20 Search (4)  
22 Omnibus (3)



SOLUTION TO No 477  
ACROSS: 1 Squib 4 Figure 8 Lying 9 Rampant 10 Clemency 11 Hill  
13 State of mind 17 Gobi 18 Astonish 21 Ostrude 22 Tie in  
23 Enablers 24 Ritz  
DOWN: 1 Solace 2 Unite 3 Baguette 4 Ferociousness 5 Gimp  
6 Elation 7 Tattle 12 Impostor 14 Tabitha 15 Ignore 16 Clasp  
19 Inept 20 Lull

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PENDING PUBLICATION

### THE DIARIES OF A CABINET MINISTER

by the Right Hon. James Hacker MP  
edited by Jonathan Lynn and Antony Jay

"I say, Humphrey, have you seen my new book from the BBC?"

"No Minister - has it been cleared through the proper channels?"

"Well really Humphrey, you know everyone's writing their memoirs nowadays."

"I believe so, Minister. Of course, it is not for me to comment on Ministerial eccentricities Minister."

"Oh come along Humphrey, it's simply splendid! It covers in detail my time in office as Minister for Administrative Affairs where my brief was to investigate and control administrative efficiency and overspending."

"Yes Minister."

## How to use life to shed light on meaning

James Fenton reviews the last book of criticism by the Grand Old Man of poetry and Seven Types of Ambiguity

The genius of the late Sir William Empson's prose is very much bound up with his tone of voice. He wrote in much the same way as he spoke, and this means that, although he is often difficult to follow, he always convinces you that what he is saying is worth at least trying to catch. Some things in these essays - the last collection he himself put together before his death this year - are completely obscure to me. But that is not a fatal objection. Indeed, there are times when I suspect that his eccentricity is entertaining at the expense of sense. On such occasions I have a tendency to plump for entertainment. We should not always have our feet too firmly on the ground.

It could be, for instance, that there is no such thing as the improbable Wimsatt Law, which Empson several times attacks. Or perhaps it is overstated in the form given: the Law, says Empson, states that an author's intentions cannot (and should not) be grasped by the reader. Empson by contrast maintains that "a student of literature should be trying all the time to empathize with the author (and of course the assumptions and conventions by which the author found himself bound); to tell him that he cannot even partially succeed is about the most harmful thing you can do."

One of the uses of biography is to shed light on an author's intentions. The essays here collected demonstrate that particular use. Empson's attitude appears to represent a staunch, if heretical, defence of common sense - until you come to see what he

USING BIOGRAPHY  
by William Empson  
Chatto & Windus £12.95

means by biography. Then you have, for a while, to pause. For what is here meant by biography is an altogether more brilliant and speculative undertaking than the word normally connotes. The foundation of biography is of course historical evidence, but where this is incomplete, Empson, by dint of the empathy he recommended to students of literature, attempts to furnish the missing details. Here, in his account of the death of Marvell, the technique is used to beautiful effect.

I suggest that he walked out from an evening party at a house in Hull, and used his eminence to walk out through a gate of the city, and walked for what remained of the night, indifferent to the fatal marshes; and returned at dawn to take the first coach back to London. As the coach jolted slowly, and he got more and more feverish, he would reflect on how thoroughly tricky his situation had become, on every side. When at last he got home, irritated all over, and his doctor suggested a whisky medicine, as the "tertiary" returned, warning him that it would cause a long, deep sleep, he accepted that eagerly: nobody expected to die from the familiar agent, tinseltown though it was; that was no problem. But from a real sleep he would expect to wake up, as often before, suddenly seeing a way out, knowing what to do.

Three of these essays are devoted to Marvell. The third of them, which ends with the passage quoted, is much of the time impossible to follow, and it is full of adumbrations of what a person would have done or thought. To know whether



you agree with his speculations, you really need to have at your disposal all the evidence gathered by Empson; but this is made impossible by the blurring of distinctions between speculations and evidence.

The speculative method is used in a more controlled

fashion in the essay on Yeats and the evidence for the Byzantium poems. Once again, the key is empathy, and, once again, Empson's daring is remarkable. He is thinking about the mechanical bird, and wondering why the idea of the poet's becoming such a thing

had so much significance for Yeats. And he begins to think, perhaps Yeats himself once owned, or wished to own, a mechanical bird of the kind that was popular in the 1870s. And Empson tells us how his own grandmother had such a toy, and how he had seen it, as a child, and how his mother (born in 1865, the same year as Yeats) had also seen it as a child. The passage continues in a relaxed way, with memories of the mechanical birds which Queen Victoria sent to the Empress Dowager of China, and which (since the communist victory there) have been removed from public display. We are even told the name of the firm, Ellicott, which made them.

Such tours, Empson says, "had come to be felt somehow edifying, or at least poetical in a high-minded way; many people nowadays, while regarding this sentiment as quaint and remote, would yet feel that the doll in Petrouskia is telling you some mysterious truth which half comforts you and half makes you cry." This point is well worth arriving at, and it is difficult to see how Empson could have got to it without his empathizing, biographical, and indeed, autobiographical, method.

The same approach is used to elucidate the notoriously obscure lines: "For Hades' hobbin, bound in mummy-cloth/May unwind the winding path", which I had always assumed to be nonsense. According to Empson, Yeats is thinking of the technique used by Theseus in the labyrinth, or by Curdie in George MacDonald's *The Princess and the Goblin*. Yeats imagines picking up the mummy and unwinding the single length of cloth in order to mark his way back to daylight. Presumably, then, the furthest point to which he could penetrate Byzantium is the point at which the contents of the wrapping are fully revealed to him.

*The Princess and the Goblins* was published, Empson says, "when Yeats was seven years old and became part of the equipment of every respectable Victorian nursery. One of my earliest memories is of clutching a candle in my shaking hand and climbing over heaps of coal as I wound up the thread left by my sister across the vast and labyrinthine cellars of Yorkfield Hall. If the child Yeats had not played this game, too, it is hard to see why the grotesque conceit rang a bell in him."

Whether or not we quite share Empson's conviction that he and Yeats played the same game, and were impressed by the same toys, there is a welcome and corrective vividness about his elucidation of the Byzantium poems, which demands that you remember Yeats's Victorian childhood and the kind of circumstances that formed his imagination. Or equal, perhaps greater value, is his review of *The Waste Land* manuscripts and his thoughts as to its meaning and origin.

Summarizing the theme which Pound must have detected, and which English readers tend to regard as incidental to the poem, Empson suggests as follows: "London has just escaped from the First World War, but it is certain to be destroyed in the second one, because it is in the hands of financiers. The very place of it will be soon with salt, as Carthage was, and forgotten by men; or it will be sunk under water." To this reading, the suppressed passages of Jewish-baiting are "still deeply involved in the final poetry." But Empson is not surprised at Eliot's *The Jew Baiter*. He is "not inclined to pull a long face about this. A writer had better rise above the ideas of his time, but one should not take offence if he doesn't."

## Lessing's little experiment, fishnets, bluestockings, and satirical fantasies

Early last year I was sent for review *The Diary of a Good Neighbour* by Jane Somers. Always keen to discuss a first novel, which, despite the pseudonym, I assumed this to be, I read it to its rather bitter end. On reflection, I decided there were novels more deserving of attention that week. Despite some passages that chimed, I thought Jane Somers's work diffuse, inconsistent, and overbearing dreary. I haven't changed my mind now the author is revealed to be Doris Lessing.

Lessing's "little experiment" - the value of which her American publisher likened to a pair of old socks - provoked a spirited debate which clouded the most crucial issue of all. Doris Lessing's early novels were thought to be good because they were good - not because they were by Doris Lessing. The novels of Jane Somers - another followed - went unremarked because quite simply they were unremarkable.

A diary is perhaps not the best format in which to explore and discipline the menopausal shapelessness of a character's life. That of Jane Somers - attractive, middle-aged editor of a woman's glossy - is not only narcissistically repetitive, it is also written in prose that is

FICTION  
Nicholas Shakespeare

THE DIARIES OF JANE SOMERS  
By Doris Lessing  
Michael Joseph, £9.95  
PARACHUTES AND KISSES  
By Erica Jong  
Granada, £8.95

often as incontinent as the people she meets - derelict old women, lunatic nieces, helplessly married men. Unconvincing as a magazine editor, Jane Somers is a soggy creature in need of a shake; someone, I can't help feeling, now I know, who has crawled from the pages of an early Lessing novel that has been dropped in the bath.

One of Lessing's greatest fans - one who mentions her in the same hot breath as Tolstoy - is Erica Jong. This third volume of the life and loves of Isadora Wing examines the problems of someone who has written a seminal work like *Fear of Flying*. Despite a prediction that Erica Jong will do for guacamole what Marianne Faithfull did for Mars Bars, the

result is not particularly penetrating or erotic. It does, though, inspire me to react with the emotional excess and candour of its author. One of the more self-indulgent novels to come my way, *Parachutes and Kisses*, left me with the strong suspicion that it was written with a vibrator.

We rejoin Isadora experiencing "every woman's greatest nightmare". She has won success only to lose the one man she has ever loved. Unable to cope with her success, husband Josh has walked out - Josh that man with whom she had such a rare understanding. ("They could go to a dull dinner party, listen to some tortuous speech by the host, merely glance at each other and understand at once what the other thought...") Left holding their baby, Isadora is morose to the point of migraines. Aware of her sexuality - "the cosmic juice of her being" - she plunges into a series of affairs. Sex at 39 is better than ever. Her orgasms, we are reliably informed, "grasp at the emptiness of certain death with unaccustomed ferocity".

And there are orgasms with a disc jockey, a Nobel Laureate and most gratifying of all one Berkeley Sproul. Fourteen years her junior, Sproul has learned

his love-making from her books. "He was tender, but there was no question he was a man."

If Isadora can be admired for the uninhibited way in which she refuses to censor herself, she must be grieved for exposing the most horrifying truth of all. She is a crashing bore, which no amount of learned reference - to Rilke, Neruda, even Lessing - can redress. In fact her most irritating quality is this attempt to wear blue stockings over her fishnets. A sentence like "they made the love that Ruskin and his Effie could not make" is both tasteless and meaningless.

Stuart Evans

DE ALFONCE TENNIS  
By J. P. Donleavy  
Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £8.95  
BLUE PASTORAL  
By Gilbert Sorrentino  
Marian Boyars, £9.95

On the eve of the attack on Pearl Harbour, a luxury yacht, the "Hysathere", bearing thirteen of the fourteen players of a vigorous and exclusive game, Bangkok, disappeared in strange circumstances. "The Fourteenth", Horatio Josiah De-Alfonce Adams IV, much later, engineers his own stylish demise, but bequeaths to J.P.,

author of this manual, a tennis kit of strange appearance.

It lies forgotten for some time until J.P.'s interest in spirited games is aroused on a transatlantic voyage by a beautiful and athletic English heiress, Laura. While briefly admitted to her charms, he has to endure the jealous presence of a singularly foolish aristocrat, Lord Charles. Reunited with Laura in New York, J.P., is introduced to her luxurious house equipped with a De-Alfonce court. They engage in a rapturous game. Soon after Laura is driven into the Grand Canyon in a Rolls by Lord Charles.

The bereft J.P., makes it his duty to record the evolution of the game, the relationship of Laura and "The Fourteenth", his own agony of love; and sets himself up as the arbiter of all that is elegant, correct and admirable in this pursuit of elite, very rich people. The Rules are outlined; necessary accoutrements are listed in detail; there are notes on appropriate conduct for De-Alfonce players, an ideal regimen, and matters miscellaneous including response to an obscene telephone call, approach to champagne, and funeral compartment.

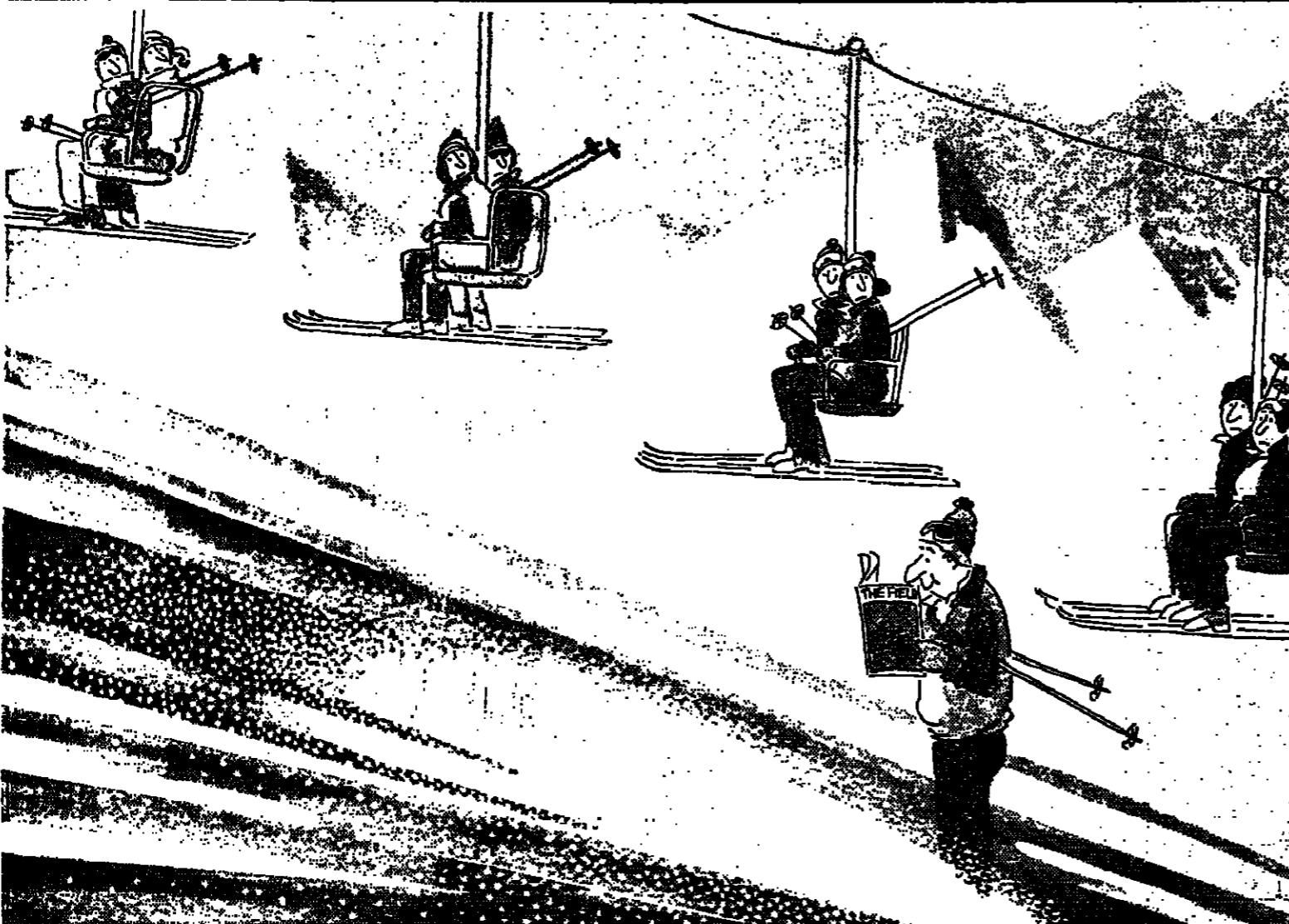
The novel is satirical fantasy of the highest order, written with exquisite deadpan wit which frequently erupts into high comedy or riotous farce: a mordant study of elitist tathara which is thoroughly enjoyable.

*Blue Pastoral* is also a satirical fantasy of ebullient

invention, but admirers of the riproaring comedy of Gilbert Sorrentino's *Mulligan Stew* or the beautifully constructed *Aberration of Starlight* might be disappointed by this sprawlingly comprehensive send-up of the pastoral form in all its manifestations. The author hints in the final chapter that he may be accused of self-indulgence and responds with a brisk obscenity which is characteristic of much of the language in the novel and the action. In fact, its lewdness and cruelty are startling.

A not-entirely ingenious New Yorker, Serge Gavotte (otherwise Blue) sets out with his wife and infant son to trek across America in search of the perfect musical phrase. The quest takes him through Eastern, Mid-Western, Southern, and South-Western states until he reaches California where he takes leave of his wits in San Francisco. On the way he affords Mr Sorrentino the opportunity of ruthlessly ridiculing pastoral convention and in so doing satirizing without mercy almost every aspect and assumption of American life.

The writing has immense energy and versatility. Some of the episodes - a Saint Patrick's Day address by a fanatic Irish-American; Father Donald Debris SJ, on the Christian approach to sex; Big Black's violent lecture; a Southern Idyll - are venomously effective, but the highly mannered mixture of archaic elaboration and unusually foul dementic becomes ultimately very wearing.



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## BOOKS II

If Sir Nicholas Henderson's despatches were written like this book they must have been received with joy. Observation, humour and intelligent analysis are gracefully combined. Writing a book about his times in the Private Office at the Foreign Office was an original and successful idea.

The young gentlemen, and perhaps now the young ladies, who sit in the Private Office, with their agreeable Trollopian approach to affairs, are indispensable. With judgment beyond their years they assess the Foreign Secretary's foibles and the directions in which his mind is moving and interpret them to the rest of the Foreign Office. The Principal Private Secretary, if he has a good rapport with the Foreign Secretary, can be the most important civil servant in the building; sometimes more important than the Foreign Secretary when, like R. A. Butler, he is unwilling to be decisive about anything.

Did he really have to go to a National Day Cocktail party at the Moroccan Embassy? Henderson assured him three times that it was unnecessary before he left the office. When he got home Rab rang for another reassurance that there was no need for him to go.

"The next morning we asked him whether, as a matter of courtesy, he ought not to write to the Moroccan Ambassador to apologize for unavoidable absence the night before."

I know that everybody is said to have at least one book in her or him, but this is becoming ridiculous. I reckon that here is the tenth book that Edward Blighen has mined from his life. Like Ved Mehta, he has discovered an inexhaustible seam of material in every day events and ordinary people. The reason that such writers manage it is their state of non-stop amazement and curiosity and, on the whole, benevolence, about the amazing facts of mortality.

Not a lot happens in this volume. The main events are Blighen's struggle to give up smoking, and a visit to an

## Private Foreign Affairs

Woodrow Wyatt

THE PRIVATE OFFICE  
By Nicholas Henderson  
Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £9.95

"Oh, I went," he said.

Butler was adept at not committing himself on almost any subject. To the pleasure of the Private Office he was compulsively indiscreet. Henderson's description of his behaviour and character, though affectionate, shows why this clever, cultivated man never became leader of his party.

Henderson's hero was Ernest Bevin to whom he was Assistant Private Secretary. The goodness of that great man, grappling to save Britain and Europe, with no resources but America to call on, shines out. He loved talking and drinking late into the night yanking Henderson out of his bedroom. "Let's have one more drink and a chat before we turn in."

"Poor humanity" was a favourite aside as he dealt with some problem affecting not just frontiers but people's lives."

## Life as one long book

Philip Howard

A SECOND SKIN  
By Edward Blighen  
Hamish Hamilton, £8.95

international congress of humour in South Korea, where the subject of the congress died the death of a thousand definitions. Seldom in the field of human authorship has so

Bevin's solicitude for his wife was immense. He would leave important discussions with his officials during an international conference if she sent for him to sit on the sidelines when she couldn't get the m. shut. I find everything Henderson writes about Bevin authentic and moving down to the last sad goodbye when Bevin's illness compelled him to give up the post he loved and which he had honoured by holding.

However, I think he rates the conscientious Michael Stewart a little high. He made a splendid speech at the Oxford Union defending American policy in Vietnam, but he was too much like a civil servant, always smothered in paper. His main contribution seems to have been the idea that if Britain set an example, ignoring British interests, the rest of the world would follow. It never had when we were strong; and was less likely to do so when we were weak. The civil servants liked him, because he never queried what they did.

Eden flits through at the beginning, scattering charm and material for good anecdotes. Henderson liked the Douglas-Homes.

There is more to be learnt about politicians, civil servants and the workings of a ministry in this book than in many much weightier tomes, with the bonus that it is entertaining throughout. I hope Sir Nicholas writes more about his experiences in the same vein.

much been written so charmingly about so little. It is not merely a biography. The book is also classy, colour writing, and poetic, and philosophical, in the most gentle and indecisive way, you understand.

The book is quite well subtitled, as things go these days. Then suddenly on page 71 there are no fewer than eight glaring literals. A gem in the computer? Blighen dashes surreptitiously into the shower for an illicit drag at his ghastly pipe? What is it? But doubt it will make an engaging and quirky chapter in volume 11.

## Next best to seeing her dance

John Percival

PAVLOVA IMPRESSIONS  
By Margot Fonteyn  
Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £15

Everyone who saw Margot Fonteyn presenting her series on television knows how a few words drawn from her own experience can suddenly light up the work of another dancer. long dead. Now she has done the same thing in book form with her impressions of Anna Pavlova - "the woman and artist I hold above all others in the history of ballet". They have so much in common, not only in the unusual length of their careers and the immensely wide audiences they reached, but also in the capacity to capture the hearts and minds of people who had never watched dancing before.

Prepared in collaboration with Roberta and John Lazzarini, who run the Pavlova Museum at Ivy House, Hampstead, the text consists mainly of quotations from old press cuttings, collected from around the world. They are interspersed with Fonteyn's illuminating comments and when Dame Margot remarks that Pavlova "could never be completely aware of the impact she had on people because she could never see herself on the stage", you realize the full poignancy of that. Equally authentic is the remark on ballet shoes, "the base of every ballerina's life", that precedes an account of Pavlova's dealings with Nicolini, her shoe-maker in Milan.

Pavlova herself is quoted on an enormous variety of subjects, which, amazingly, never degenerated into a rehearsed formula. On learning a new



Pavlova flutters in The Dragonfly by Kreisler

ballet: "It takes at least six months. The comparison may seem a little gross, but an artist who is preparing a new role is rather like a pregnant woman. I become a much 'nicer' person, and because I am totally absorbed in my work, life seems so much sweeter." On moments between rehearsals: "I chat with the other dancers or wash my staves." On her unmerciful hunger ("During the performance drink water with bread-crumbs, which is most refreshing"), on her experiences on tour, on jazz and fashion.

There are marvellously funny comments from The Bytander and The Tattler about her quarrel with her partner Mordkin, a

beautiful account of her in the wings by one of her dancers, standing quivering in the red box "the better to grind the stuff into the toe of her slipper", and always crossing herself before going on. Sometimes the two operations were simultaneous, and "you might have imagined, as I did, that Madame was doing a special little divissement for the pleasure of Jesus".

Sir Frederick Ashton provides a brief description from his memories, and we are indebted to him, too, for an account of how people waited for her to leave the theatre but never "dreamed of daring to ask for her autograph, any more than they would ask royalty."

## Steering the raft with a short oar

Julian Haviland

MRS THATCHER'S FIRST ADMINISTRATION  
By Jock Bruce-Gardyne  
Macmillan, £20, paperback £7.95

The key appointments in Mrs Thatcher's major reshuffle in September 1981 were the promotion to the Cabinet of Nigel Lawson and Norman Tebbit. But the elevation of Jock Bruce-Gardyne from the backbenches to the Treasury as Minister of State, and the translation of his closest friend Nicholas Ridley from the Foreign Office to be Financial Secretary, made an almost equal splash.

At Westminster the new Treasury recruits were proof that the Prime Minister felt vulnerable and needed uncritical loyalists around her. In the Treasury itself officials were nervously agog. They knew Lawson, departing only to return soon as Chancellor, for a convinced monetarist, but Ridley, and even more Bruce-Gardyne, were by reputation Friggianite fanatics.

Bruce-Gardyne's book shows him to be neither financial nor the Prime Minister's blind devotee. His modest case is that the first Thatcher administration did not do too badly and, by good management and good luck, managed the economy better than his critics would have done.

His claim is not susceptible of proof. As unemployment soars, it will be more and more vigorously disputed from within the Tory ranks as well as outside. But he deserves a hearing as both a lively reporter and an honest witness, given to speaking his mind with a frankness foreign to the smoother sort of politician.

His book should be avoided by those who seek a strengthening of their faith in the powers of governments. The author's 21 months in office made him a sceptic. "The capacity of governments... in modern Britain... is never more than marginal for good or ill," he concludes.

He has seen from the inside that the levers in Great George

Street will sometimes just not budge. The views of a Wall Street pundit can have a decisive short-term impact on British interest and exchange rates. A "bunch of mullahs" in the Gulf can transform the business climate overnight.

Bruce-Gardyne's preoccupation is naturally with the Treasury, which reappears in successive chapters like a storm-tossed raft. Sir Geoffrey Howe for ever struggling with an understated steering oar.

The author found all this "worrying" and "unfortunate". Whether Sir Geoffrey ever felt like bolting for a monastery or bawled out his advisers in vexation we do not learn. But we are clearly shown who wins plotting the ship's course. Twice in 1982 the Prime Minister put her foot down when the Treasury toyed with the notion of joining the European Monetary System. And we see fear spread among Treasury ministers and officials when, with the First Lord absent in the Falklands, the pound suddenly begins to slide.

The Treasury fund itself caught in crossfire. Resisting the market pressures might lead to a dizzying fall in the exchange rate. Allowing base rates to rise again was likely to provoke a Prime Ministerial broadside as soon as her plane touched down. It did.

Bruce-Gardyne has some complaints. He was disappointed that his boss, the Chancellor, failed to tax company cars and other middle-class perks equitably; and he is scandalized by the sacrosanctity of mortgage interest relief. The apostate in him is more interested than the disciple.

## Jolly boating slaughter

CRIME

Marcel Berlins

THE SHORTEST WAY TO HADES  
By Sarah Caudwell  
Collins, £6.95

linguistic jest which happens to be in the format of a most excellently constructed story of crime and detection. It is more demanding than the average whodunit, but delightfully worth the extra effort.

● The Master Key, by Masako Togawa (Century, £8.95). Extraordinarily atmospheric Japanese thriller, published in 1962 and only now translated into English (by Simon Grove). A once-lively, now sad and faded hostel for single ladies holds long-buried, near-forgotten criminal secrets. A road-widening scheme affecting the building re-awakens memories and passions. Miss Togawa writes with economy, subtlety and an astonishing feel for time, mood, and the eccentricities of loneliness. An eerie gem.

● Sion Crossing, by Anthony Price (Gollancz, £8.95). Price's ability to achieve a faultless mix of obscure historical erudition and commanding knowledge of modern terror and duplicity continues to astound. The history is American Civil War, a brief moment during General Sherman's march through Georgia. The mystery is why a top British intelligence deskman should be investigating it on the spot. Layers accumulate with Price's unmatchable precision and complexity.

● The Artful Egg, by James McClure (Macmillan, £7.50). Black and White team of Zondi and Kramer reunited after four years, with no damage to their warm and wise relationship, or their capacity to penetrate and expose the unhappy complexities of South African life in the cause of detection. The death of a white novelist by sword and of a police interrogator's wife by soap provide the backdrop.

● The Tree of Hands, by Ruth Rendell (Hutchinson, £8.50). Rendell in pursuit of her obsession with obsession. A claustrophobic, three-generations tale of madness and bereavement. A baby's kidnapping sets off a chain reaction of emotional trauma, described with the confidence of a writer in full and sympathetic command of her subject. More darkly convincing than her last, but the desire for Chief Inspector Wexford's return has not diminished.

● Murder in the Collective, by Barbara Wilson (The Women's Press, £7.50). A paragon whodunnit for the GLC. Murder among gays, lesbians, and political activists as two radical grime collectives plan merger. Sexually uncertain feminist plays sleuthperson. Sharply written, traditional plot in unusual well-described American setting.

● A Shock to the System, by Simon Brett (Macmillan, £7.50). Brett has succumbed to the crime scribes' occupational hazard of abandoning their popular hero to write an inside-the-mind-of-a-murderer novel (subject: Graham Marshall, unhappy at home, work and play). Superior of its kind, with excellent sense of pace, tension and encroaching panic, and a genuine surprise ending.

● Lightning, by Ed McBain (Hamish Hamilton, £8.95). Running proves fatal to a succession of girl athletes, and a rapist repeats his crimes on the same victims. McBain is thankfully back in the 87th precinct with old friends, but the tone is a little darker than usual, the issues more disturbing.

Gerald Abraham, Peter Ackroyd, Fleur Adcock, Brian Aldiss, Kingsley Amis, Noel Annan, Timothy Garton Ash, John Ashbery, Gillian Avery, Royce Barham, Julian Barnes, John Bayley, Bernard Bengzon, T.J. Binyon, Christopher Booker, Malcolm Bradbury, Edward Kaimu Brachwalter, Asa Briggs, Samuel Britcher, Joseph Brodsky, Anita Brookner, Brigid Brophy, Tina Brown, Kevin Brownlow, Julian Budden, Anthony Burgess, Alec Campbell, Arthur Calder Marshall, Italo Calvino, Humphrey Carpenter, Raymond Carr, Michael Carver, Charles Causley, Anthony Clark, John Cowie, J.M. Coetzee, Isabel Colegate, Stefan Collini, Robert Conquest, Patricia Craig, A.C. Danto, Donald Daise, Michael Davie, Russell Davies, Richard Dawkins, Norman Del Mar, Rosemary Dinnage, Denis Donoghue, Georges Duby, M.J. Dobson, Duff, Douglas Dunn, Terry Eagleton, G.R. Elton, D.J. Enright, Gavin Ewart, James Fenton, Patrick Galbraith, Margaret Forster, Roy Foster, Charles Fox, Joseph Frank, John Fuller, Roy Fuller, P.N. Furbank, Mark Gardner, Victoria Gleadow, Lawrence Gooden, Simon Gray, Peter Green, Geoffrey Harrison, John Groom, Tom Gunning, Elizabeth Hardwick, Ian Hamilton, Barbara Hanrahan, Tony Harrison, Patricia Hardwick, David Hawththorn, Christopher Hope, George Orwell, Tim Hynes, Michael Hynes, Eric Hobsbawm, Harold Hobson, Michael Hodgson, Christopher Hogwood, Michael Holroyd, Michael Howard, Liam Hudson, Ted Hughes, Michael Ingham, Nick Ingham, Dan Jacobson, P.D. James, Ruth Kewer, Anthony Kerr, P.N. Johnson, P.N. Johnson-Laird, Gwendolyn Jones, Simon Karlinsky, Alfred Kazin, Oliver Kenna, Jonathan Keates, John Keegan, Peter Kemp, Hugh Kenner, Eric Kohn, Stephen Koss, Emanuel Le Roy Ladurie, Philip Larkin, Hermione Lee, Mary K. Lefkowitz, Peter Levi, Hugh Lloyd Jones, David Lodge, Edna Longley, Michael Longley, Steven Luce, Adrian Lyttelton, Colin MacCabe, Ian McEwan, Ian McEwan, Adam Mars-Jones, Wilfrid Mellers, Oliver Miller, Janet Morgan, Blake Morrison, Andrew Motion, Poul Muelgaard, Dennis Murphy, Lee A. Murray, R.K. Narayan, Joseph Nazzari, Jill Neville, Norman Nicholson, Julia O'Faolain, Raymond O'Hanlon, Tom Paulin, Ben Pinkus, Harold Pinter, Richard Poirier, Peter Porter, S.S. Prawer, Anthony Quinton, Craig Raine, Michael Ramsey, Claude Rawson, Robert Redford, Peter Redwood, Christopher Reid, Pat Rogers, Robert Ryle, Carol Savage, Lorna Sage, John Sargent, Michael Schuster, John Sutherland, Michael Susskind, E. Schan, John Sutherland, A.W.B. Simpson, C.H. Sisson, Susan Sontag, Stephen Spender, Mary Spurling, Gavin Stamp, George Steiner, J.M. Steward, Norman Stone, Anthony Storr, P.F. Straw, Graham Swift, Julian Symonds, Wilfred Thesiger, D.M. Thomas, Hugh Thomas, Anthony Thwaites, Charles Tomlinson, Susan Trend, David Tye, Robert Tuck, Tessa Tye, E. Turner, Bernard Warner, Mary Watkin, Susan Webster, John Weighman, Stanley Wells, Cécile Woddy, Michael Woodhead, John Willmet, Hugo Williams, A.N. Wilson, Richard Wolheim, Michael Wood, Peregrine Worsthorne, Hugo Young, Zinovy Zilic.

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## THE TIMES DIARY

### Striking similarity

Links have been established between striking Notts miners and the IRA's political wing, Sinn Féin. According to Martin Bower of Co. Down, writing in the left-wing *Labour Briefing*, 14 Notts miners recently visited Northern Ireland because they decided that with the tactics the Police were using on their picket lines it would be beneficial for us to witness things at first hand and draw our own conclusions as to any similarities. The delegation was shown round by Sinn Féin supporters, writes Bower, and saw "all the foris that the British Army had built to justify their presence" and "the sophisticated monitoring systems which aid the repression of the Nationalist population in the surrounding areas of West Belfast". The miners also attended workshops in a mill just off the Falls Road. Bower does not mention that the mill houses the Sinn Féin advice centre. Nor, unfortunately, does he reveal what they learnt.

### Bowing out

Paul Eddington, star of *Yes Minister* and *The Good Life*, will resign this morning from the board of Bristol Old Vic Theatre in protest against the acceptance of £5,000 worth of sponsorship from Imperial Tobacco. Eddington, who has been on the board for ten years, says he no longer feels he can accept money earned by damaging people's health.

### Send a rocket

The Labour Party was thrilled when it first saw *Thatcher's Reign: A Bad Case of the Blues*, the collection of sanctimonious, contradictory and downright embarrassing Thatcher quotations which Chatto publish on November 5. So much so that it offered to hold a big Guy Fawkes night launch party at its Waltham Road headquarters with fireworks, a male Mrs T impersonator, and Labour leaders in attendance.

Unfortunately it only occurred to someone a week ago to ask the political affiliation of the authors - Melanie MacFadyen and Margaret Renn - lest they turned out to be Tories. It proved even worse. Renn said she belonged to the Socialist Workers' Party, and Labour has abruptly cancelled the festivities.

When trying to send an urgent "telemessage" yesterday I dialled 190 to be told British Telecom could not deliver the message until the following day. "If you want to reach him today," said the obliging operator, "why don't you use the Interlora service?"

### Weak defence

Bruce Fraser, who dismally failed to set up a Conservative CND last month when right-wingers packed the meeting, should be more selective about his correspondence. At the time I revealed - from a letter he had written to an apparent supporter - that he had conveniently joined the Tory Party three months earlier to give himself credibility. Now he has written to another professed supporter disclosing that he is still burrowing away, and recognizing "the need to be more professional this time". The recipient's name? Huw Shooter - the young Monday Clubber fined £200 in Brighton for helping to destroy CND's mock Trident submarine.

BARRY FANTONI



'Neville thought for years St Michael was the patron saint of underwear'

### Abroad view

A batch of blistering "post reports" written by Australian diplomats to guide their successors has just been released under Australia's Freedom of Information Act. Incumbents of the Dublin embassy say: "The generally lax attitude of the Irish towards business and working life and an all-too-common lack of professionalism at most levels of Irish society are more suggestive of a developing-country mentality than that of a Western European country." While Ireland's "poor standard of driving" is attributed to excessive alcohol and lack of discipline. Of a posting to Bangkok, the diplomats conclude their diatribe: "Thank God the Embassy has a happy hour at the Bunyip Bar." Chicago is "introverted and parochial"; Rangoon has "five times as many rats as people"; Lagos is "large, dirty, unattractive and unhealthy"; and, on Kingston, "almost anyone with skill or wit applies those talents to leave Jamaica forever." Diplomats advise against giving formal dinners to Ghanaians, and stress that "oral subtleties such as irony should be avoided until confident of the level of sophistication of even highly educated Ghanaians." Sadly, I cannot trace any comments from London postings.

PHS

# Miners: hit them in the conscience

by Norman Strauss

The clearest lesson of the seven-month coal strike is that the Government is still not adequately equipped to handle a well-trained and organized opponent in psychological and presentational terms. Moving coal stocks is much easier than shifting attitudes and beliefs. To a convinced striking miner there is as yet no alternative but to carry on. The idea of a slow drift back to work was always optimistic unless new information made miners, their families and all those involved see things differently.

Providing that political information is the Government's responsibility, even though the strike is against the NCB, it is precisely because this strike is against the known policy of a democratic government that it ought to be defeated.

The Government's many roles must be clarified and its true purpose made clear. New pressure points must be identified to cause movement of hearts and minds. The obvious list - DHSS payments, suspended mortgage and HP payments, tax rebates and free coal - will merely induce further hatred of authority. A different part of the human spirit must be reached.

The identification of stimuli to achieve this has so far eluded the Government and is probably outside Ian MacGregor's consciousness. The task is to cause loss of citizens to think again and, by so doing, see things differently. At a minimum, those closest to the striking miners must begin to ask questions and wonder whether they are doing this right thing.

Why do state and business incursions including the banks, building societies, local traders and HP companies bend over back-

wards not to upset the strikers and to minimize their hardships? The pickets are prepared to cause bodily harm and mental stress to those who disagree with them. Why should the state be kind to people who are so cruel and hostile to its laws in contempt? Is it fair that only the state always turns the other cheek?

Is it just that by diverting the attentions of government departments to the strike, energies, resources and attention to the problems of long-term unemployment, the welfare state, youth training and adult retraining are reduced?

What makes the modern unemployed miner different from all other unemployed people? Why should miners' children have their jobs guaranteed when nobody else's children do? Why should they be allowed to hijack an unfair share of the nation's resources, thereby causing other people out of jobs? Why should they be able to seek to minimize their own future discomfort at the expense of everybody else?

It is a measure of the NCB's failure that such questions as these would still cut no ice with miners. Why aren't they ashamed of the violent acts carried out in their name? What is needed to get them to re-evaluate their whole beliefs and approach?

A set of new strategic options and a working plan must be created to cause the key figures to think again and to "re-evaluate" their view of the possible, the most humanly desirable, and the most likely outcomes of this conflict. For it is this process

alone that can cause them to alter previously fixed positions.

There are no fewer than nine clear groups who have a leadership stake in this issue: the NUM and its officials; the striking miners; the working miners; the NCB and its officials; all other people who work in the coal industry; Parliament; the Government; the opposition parties; and the TUC.

Without new efforts from at least some of these parties, the most likely outcome now looks as if it will be led by events rather than by strategy. Future events the they power cuts, atrocities, inhuman actions, personal frustration, deaths, accidents, exhaustion, or a flash of public debate and genuine capitulation will themselves force a reevaluation upon all the groups affected. The worse events become, the more the pressures on those involved will mount until, finally and very painfully, something has to give.

A statesmanlike yet human perspective is vital when the insiders involved in the dispute are all under enormous psychological pressure and have developed seemingly unshakable and deeply loyal views of the justness of their own positions. In the hope that this mature approach can still occur, there follows an agenda for ministers who might like to think again now that the unthinkable must be thought.

Recognize that this strike now involves national optimism and credibility. It is no longer self-contained and just about coal. An interlocking range of issues and policies encompassing the fields of economics, energy policy, industrial

competitiveness, new technology, capital investment and unemployment trends and forecasts underlies both the Government's reason for demanding an efficient coal industry and the miners' reasons for striking. In this context, it is a *pari passu* to be allocated more resources per head than workers in other industries, not a right.

Identify and address sympathetically the crucial psychological variables at work among the miners: these include individual uncertainties, hopes and fears, and the need for self-respect as a worker, citizen, parent, community member and individual.

Decide on the ideas, experiences and beliefs that are cementing current patterns of anti-social behaviour: explain why this has happened and work out something better that could replace them over time.

Show goodwill by admitting to past errors and mistakes and apologising accordingly. Remember that you want them to climb down too.

Realize the massive number of elements that need to be originated and communicated and set the government machine to work on a full-time inter-departmental task force basis. Use outside academic and media advisers both as a check on the work and to help draw up a plan for communicating the new understanding and reasons for hope.

Check that good citizens can see all this to be fair and convincing. If they can't, why should the striking miners?

The author, a London management consultant, was a member of the Prime Minister's Policy Unit at 10 Downing Street 1979-82.

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## The Freemason Dean of St Albans explains his apparently conflicting beliefs to Pat Krett

# Christ his witness, the Great Architect his guide



Dr Moore: "There can be only one God"

people who would otherwise have nothing, it gives them something. And it is one of the bases of Freemasonry that you accept the existence of the Great Architect of the Universe. This is God, though not in the Christian sense. The God that we worship is the same God that Jews and Muslims worship. It is God. There can be only one God.

While sympathizing with those Christians who feel that they could not belong to a body that excluded recognition of Christ's divinity, he said that it was not an issue of conscience for him: "Some people feel that their allegiance to Christ is compromised by associating with people who accept God but not Christ. I don't feel like that. I am glad to be associated with people who accept God as Creator."

And he stressed that he saw no conflict between his Christian belief and commitments and his Masonry membership: "I have no doubt at all

what my top priority is - which is my job as Dean - which is my life."

Dr Moore has risen to high rank both in the Church and Freemasonry. He is at one time held office as Grand Chaplain of Grand Lodge, the London-based top tier of Masonry. But he emphasized that being a Mason had in no way helped his Church career.

He joined when a chaplain at New College, Oxford, attracted by the movement's mystique and because a number of his friends were members. "The element of secrecy in it interests me. You want to know why."

A few years ago he started an annual service in St Albans for Freemasons, with agreement of the Chapter. This year's, held on Sunday, attracted a congregation of about 300 Masons and their wives.

Did a Masonic service have any special features, I asked Dr Moore. He said no Masonic insignia would be worn, nor any changes made to

the cathedral's decor, though he admitted that in the past some bizarre things had been allowed elsewhere which had generated concern.

To the bad old days extraordinary things were done. For instance there are tales of the cross being removed from churches because the Masons had a service. But I have nothing to do with that sort of thing. Anyone who comes to worship in the cathedral does what we do.

I attended the service, and the only part which jarred was the description in the closing prayers given by the Rev Dr Robert MacQueen, a former GP and now rector of Royston, Hertfordshire, to heaven as "The Great Grand Lodge above".

Dr Moore and Dr MacQueen later reassured me that there was no Freemasonry in Heaven. It was a Masonic synonym.

The origins of the special vocabulary and sometimes blood-curdling oaths of the Craft is in part an accident of history, said Dr Moore. "Masonry got going at the beginning of the eighteenth century in England - a period of allegory. If we started today we shouldn't start with a lot of the things that exist."

Various unpleasant and even fatal penalties are accepted in a solemn ceremony as the punishment for anyone who betrays the Brotherhood's clandestine codes. The tongue and heart to be torn out and the bowels burned to ashes.

But this was not intended to be taken literally, said Dr Moore. "These are the traditional penalties. I have never heard of them being used. If I really thought that was going to happen I would pack up tomorrow."

Dr Moore pointed out that Masonry raised large sums for charities, and no longer exclusively their own. The often heard complaint that they "feathered their own nests" had been heeded and there had been radical changes.

The St Albans Abbey restoration appeal for £1.7m has benefited by a £5,000 donation from Grand Lodge. He also made it clear that one of the valued aspects of Masonry for him, and many others, is the comradeship it offers. He explained: "I can go to any part of the country, any town anywhere, and will be welcomed in the lodge without reservation. It enables me to meet a cross section of the community whom I should otherwise never meet."

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## Hunt v Helms: America's other key contest

Raleigh, North Carolina The people of North Carolina like to refer to themselves as "Tarheels", a term coined by a Confederate general to praise the tenacity of North Carolina soldiers in battle.

In many ways Senator Jesse Helms, the state's senior Republican senator and congressional standard-bearer for the New Right, embodies Tarheel characteristics. Like those Confederate troops, he always stands his ground - even when defeat seems certain.

A year ago it looked as though he was doomed to lose the Senate seat he has held for the past 17 years. At that time, calling him the Democratic lion, Governor James Hunt, in the polls and had suffered a severe rebuff during the 1982 congressional elections when five right-wing Republicans he had endorsed were all defeated.

Now he has pulled level and it is a toss-up which of them will win the election. Not once during the past 16 months did he bend under the pressure of Hunt's once-commanding lead.

The epic struggle between Helms and Hunt has been described as the second most important contest of the 1984 election. Certainly it is one of the most expensive. By the time voting takes place on November 6, the two contestants will have spent more than \$20m between them, making it the most costly Senate race in American history.

Two thirds of that amount will have been spent by Helms who has been heavily financed by right-wing millionaires like Nelson Bunker Hunt and conservative Christian groups.

It is also one of the dirtiest contests. Helms, who does most of his campaigning through TV com-



Hunt (left): solid record. Helms: apostle of the New Right

mercials, is not known for his subtlety. He accuses Hunt of "bringing in the coalition of blacks and liberals and homosexuals and labour unions". His campaign literature shows Hunt alongside Rev Jesse Jackson, the former black presidential aspirant whose name evokes hate and fear among many Southern whites.

A victory for Helms, aged 62, would firmly establish the conservative base within the Republican party. The growing influence of the New Right was revealed in the manifesto which the party adopted at its Dallas convention: the re-election of Helms would greatly boost the neo-conservatives drive for the adoption of the more contentious policies - on abortion and school prayer, for example.

If Hunt succeeds in defeating Helms he will be seen as a giant

killer, the man who defeated the ayatollah of the New Right and made the South safe for moderate Democrats.

The Helms-Hunt race is a contest between representatives of two historical, distinctly Southern forces. Helms's politics are of the siege mentality South, a South which still uses the Civil War and Reconstruction as the benchmarks by which to measure present-day events. He is anti-communist and anti-government. His enemies range from Castro to Kennedy, from pinks to the press.

His Senate record has been largely a negative one. He carried out an unsuccessful filibuster last year against a national holiday honouring Martin Luther King, whom he denounced as a communist. For his backers - poor whites, conservative businessmen, tobacco farmers and Christian fundamentalist groups - such as the Moral Majority - Helms can do no wrong.

During the eight years he has been in office, Hunt has set up an effective grassroots organization in all of North Carolina's 100 counties. It is said that no one can be born, get married or die in North Carolina without getting a letter from the governor's office. On election day he will have a much stronger organization working for him than Helms, who will have to rely mainly on the strength of his personality and on his heavily-bankrolled TV campaign to persuade his followers to go out and vote.

Governor Hunt, who is 47, is a member of a new generation of

pragmatic Democrats who have been springing up in positions of authority across the South. Others include governors Charles Robb of Virginia, Richard Riley of South Carolina, Robert Graham of Florida and Senator Sam Nunn of Georgia.

Helms explained during one of his televised debates with Helms, they believe in three things: balanced budgets, economic growth coupled with full employment, and racial justice.

Most North Carolinians, including many Helms supporters, agree that Hunt's record as a two-term governor has been a good one. New industry, much of it high-tech, has poured into the state, creating thousands of new jobs.

On social issues he has managed to be progressive without being seen to be too liberal.

Hunt needs the black vote if he is to win, and is counting on the 100,000 newly-registered black voters to support him on November 6. Helms's supporters have been carrying out a registration drive of their own, mainly among Christian fundamentalists, and claim to have signed up more new voters than the Democrats.

During the eight years he has been in office, Hunt has set up an effective grassroots organization in all of North Carolina's 100 counties. It is said that no one can be born, get married or die in North Carolina without getting a letter from the governor's office. On election day he will have a much stronger organization working for him than Helms, who will have to rely mainly on the strength of his personality and on his heavily-bankrolled TV campaign to persuade his followers to go out and vote.

Most people who haven't seen the play for some time are probably vaguely aware that it starts with a

Nicholas Ashford

Ronald Butts

# Equal under the law - well almost

In one more battle for the kind of liberalism which sees the strong arm of the state to enforce its ideas, Lord Scarman last week persuaded the House of Lords to amend the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill to make racially discriminatory behaviour by a police officer a specific disciplinary offence. The essence of Lord Scarman's argument and that of supporting peers was a simple one. It was not that the change would make any difference to the behaviour of the police. His essential case which, as he said, was built on his experience of Brixton and Toxteth, was that "there is no single step that could be taken which would be more effective in building up confidence among black people in the attitudes of the police than that there should be included in the police disciplinary code this specific offence".

In other words, a special provision of potentially widespread significance throughout Britain is to be written into a law as a kind of public relations exercise to satisfy one and only one racial group rather than as a genuine measure to deal with a legal loophole. That is an abuse of law-making.

The Government differed from Lord Scarman, Lord Elton, the Home Office Minister of State, observed that the effect of the amendment would be to say, through the statute book, that "all members of ethnic minorities, for no matter how many generations they had been seised of this country, were inescapably different from the rest of the community; they must be inescapably different because conduct towards them and them alone is to be singled out for specific mention in the law".

That, Lord Elton added, would hardly convince the police that all men were equal under the law; nor would it encourage them to establish close relationships with the groups in question. Since the police code already covers improper or uncivil treatment of any citizen, black or white, it would do the ethnic minorities no good to be separated in this way from the generality of citizens. It must indeed be wrong for the same action to be dealt with under a different part of the police code according to whether the other person involved is black or white.

Yet perhaps the worst aspect of this amendment is that it could force police officers, quite unfairly, to defend themselves from an unprovable but hard to disprove accusation relating to motive as distinct from behaviour. In certain cases in which a police officer was accused of behaving improperly or uncivilly to a citizen, it might be alleged that, because they were each of different races, he had a motive of racial discrimination which differentiated this case from other cases of similar behaviour where the racial motive could not be alleged because policeman and citizen were of the same "race".

This could matter if the incident had occurred in difficult policing circumstances of a kind which might be held to be in some degree extenuating. If the policeman could not prove that he was uninfluenced by racial discrimination where it was alleged, the extenuating circumstances would be harder to take into account. Where there could be no question of racial discrimination,

the extenuating circumstances might apply. What kind of equality is this?

Indeed, what sort of justice is it? All the legislation in the world cannot establish the impulses and motives in the hearts of men that may condition, or partly condition, their actions, and of which they themselves are not perhaps fully conscious. If a Welshman on the spur of the moment is more inclined to give the benefit of the doubt to another Welshman, is that justifiable? And even the Equal Opportunities Commission has not yet found a way of getting at an employer who, when it comes to choosing a secretary from between two or more or less equal candidates, instinctively chooses the pretty one whose smile he likes.

Why should not this special legislation be extended to other minorities? Why should not the police code include a special protection for homosexuals and lesbians or even for women, that more than half of the human race who now often seem to qualify for some kind of minority status in the progressive vocabulary? Why should it not include a provision that it is a disciplinary offence for the police to be prejudiced against youth of whatever race?

After all, there are circumstances in which the police will look with a much more jaundiced eye at youth collectively than at people of mature years collectively. They will often, quite rightly, be more suspicious of the former if only on the empirical grounds that someone is more likely to get bashed up in a crowd of the callow than in an assembly of the grizzled. Some actions taken in such circumstances might be represented, or misrepresented, as the product of discrimination.

But even Lord Scarman would presumably have thought it silly to amend the bill to make discriminatory "behaviour" - whatever precisely "behaviour" means - against youth a specific disciplinary offence.

If there is provably unfair or uncivil treatment of any individual, white, black, young or old, then the police officer is rightly guilty of an offence under the code. That offence would, of course, include racial abuse or unfair treatment of a black person compared with a white person (or vice versa) in the same situation. But it would be wrong to weaken the law (the essence of which is that it should be clear and precise) by incorporating in it general declaratory statements of good intent requiring an assessment of police motive as distinct from police action. For in some districts and in some circumstances it is almost inevitable that police officers would be vulnerable to the charge of having acted out of racial discrimination, when they were simply keeping the peace.

Lord Scarman justifies his amendment chiefly on the grounds that it would give confidence to the black community. Since he is thus exercised more by public relations than by strictly legal requirements, he should think about the impact on white communities and on police morale. The Government should use its elected majority in the Commons to overturn this amendment which is due to be considered today. But it may fear to do so.

Paul Jennings

# A Midsummer Nightmare

It is no more possible to prove that *A Midsummer Night's Dream* is the greatest play in the world than that Mozart is the greatest composer. What matters is that you can always have fun casting any possible group, whether of your friends or of public figures, for this most universal and profound work.

Let us take British politics. There can be no doubt who plays Demetrius (David Steel) and Hippolyta (Queen of the Amazons, whose forthcoming nuptials to Theseus played by Michael Heseltine) are the occasion for the rude mechanicals' play. This of course is part of the general proceedings organized by Philostrate, Master of the Revels, for some reason always played by a tremendously serious-looking bloke with a beard and silver-topped ceremonial staff, a good part for Gerald Kaufman (understudied by Clement Freud).

Clearly the part of Peter Quince, nominal organizer of the mechanicals' play, goes to John Gummer; and Bottom, who wants to play every part and write new prologues and generally take charge, should find a natural in Mr Wedgwood-Benn. This would somehow be particularly apt if it were one of those productions where the same actor plays Theseus-Oberon and the same actress Hippolyta-Titania, in the scenes where Titania is magically into loving the metamorphosed Bottom (understudied, Eric Hoffer).

Also in keeping with modern conceptions of faeries as tough, gruff, no-nonsense figures with nothing of gossamer about them, would be the casting of Dennis Hensley as Oberon, perfectly served by the dapper and nimble puck of Neil Kinnock, rubbing that herb into the wrong people's eyes yet guilelessly convinced that in the end

Jack shall have Jill; Nought shall be ill; The man shall have his mare again; and all shall be well.

Most people who haven't seen the play for some time are probably vaguely aware that it starts with a

man with white hair complaining to Theseus, but can't remember what his name is - ah, yes, Egeus, that's it - complaining that his daughter Hermia won't marry Demetrius and insists on going off with Lysander. Well, who can remember exactly what it was that Michael Foot was complaining about at last year's TUC (or was it Labour Party) conference? So that's his part settled. Lysander (David Steel) and Demetrius (David Owen) are both ensorcelled into following Helena (whose one desire is to be the partner of Demetrius anyway, but now she thinks it's a trick), to the dismay of Lysander's real, destined partner Hermia (Shirley Williams). The only trouble (as so often in this case) is the casting of Helena (Mrs Thatcher, again, would do it marvelously, especially in the quarrel bit where Hermia complains of being looked down on).

Now I perceive that she hath made compare Between our statutes: she hath urged her height; And with her personage, her tall personage, Her height, forsooth, she hath prevailed with him.

But she already has one (or two) parts, likewise Michael Heseltine, who would do it well in drag, Peter Shore in drag, perhaps?

Flute the bellows minder ("You must take Thisby on you"), Roy Jenkins, Snug the joiner ("You may do it extempore, for it is nothing but roaring"), who but Dennis Skinner? And have you noticed that Robin Starveling the tailor, who is told he is to marry Thisby's mother, never actually appears in the performance? Francis Pym and Roy Hattersley on alternate nights.

Oh it's a lovely game. And that's only one group. On the world stage: Philostrate, Giscard d'Estaing; Oberon, Mitterrand; Hippolyta, Mrs Gandhi; Bottom, Mulgaib; Puck, Trudeau; Egeus, Chernenko; Snug, Reagan; Helena (this time) Mrs Thatcher; Hermia, Geraldine Ferraro, obviously to Mondale's Demetrius - all for your delight they are here. Although of course the best in this kind are bull shadows.



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# UNITY NOT UNION

The relations between France and Britain are in general good, said President Mitterrand in his interview with *The Times* yesterday. That is certainly true in the sense that the relationship between Mrs Thatcher's Conservative and President Mitterrand's Socialist government is more cordial and understanding than that between the two countries at any other time during the period of the Fifth Republic (perhaps, even, since the war) with the possible and somewhat delusive exception of the short interlude of the Pompidou-Heath accord.

On the essentials of western democracy and on the need to defend it unambiguously, the two countries and the two governments are as one. Moreover, the President and the Prime Minister plainly have a great deal of personal regard for each other, despite their apparently opposing positions in the political spectrum. Mrs Thatcher admires the President's patriotic commitment to the defence of his country and of the West; he admires her disposition to make her objectives clear and stick to them. The relationship between the two has certainly been easier since the economic management of the Mitterrand government has switched from its initial essay in fundamentalist socialism towards a version of liberal economics bearing a close resemblance to Thatcherite ideals of financial discipline.

Having remarked on the generally good relationship between the two countries, however, President Mitterrand went on in his interview to add the rather curious qualification that they do not have "the same conceptions of Europe." Since he also observed that though "France has chosen to strengthen the union," he "did not know exactly what Britain would choose", the inference the President intended to be drawn was clear. He is arguing that Britain has a less union-minded view of the European Community than France, and yesterday in his address to both Houses of Parliament, he returned to the broad theme of union which he has used in several earlier speeches this year.

The member states he said, should now "pragmatically confirm" the Community's "international existence". They should "improve its decision-making capability, increase the responsibilities of its institutions, to open new fields of co-operation..." Yet the suggestion that Britain is less interested than France in a united European Community which can make its own presence felt internationally is not warranted by the facts.

The British have, it is true, fought hard for what they regard as a fair level of financial contributions to the EEC in the light of this country's relative wealth in the Community. In this respect, it has guarded its own interest in precisely the same way as France has in the past whenever it has seemed threatened by Community imperatives. But much more fundamentally, the British government has also striven hard, and with apparent success, for a system that will take care permanently of future unfairness in the level of every other member state's contributions. It has been part of the British case that the time is not far ahead when this will be to the advantage of France as well as of Britain.

These arguments over the internal arrangements of the Community have sometimes been bitter but they have had to be forced through to a settlement in the long-term interests of the Community. The fact that Britain has been in the vanguard of the argument does not mean that this country is not, compared with France, a "good European". For not until these internal problems of Community economic management were on the way to successful solutions could the way be cleared for making Europe the "political reality" on the international scene that President Mitterrand wants it to be.

The essential question, of course, is what is to be understood by this "political reality." Mrs Thatcher herself on more than one occasion, and without ambiguity, has advocated a more concerted Community and one acting in unison in international

issues. President Mitterrand, however, appears to be going further. Earlier this year he gave his general blessing to the so-called draft Treaty of Union which was passed by the European Parliament and referred to the Council of Ministers. This document would impose a much more supranational character on the Community, including change from the system of unanimous voting in the Council of Ministers (which preserves the national veto on vital questions affecting the interests of a sovereign state) to majority voting. It also proposed that some categories of questions should be designated for the final decision of the Community instead of resting with national governments.

These ideas go well beyond anything feasible for the foreseeable future. The unity of the Community cannot be achieved by trying to enforce it through institutions. What is more, the whole history of France in the Community, not to mention its current attitudes, does nothing to support the kind of "union" now apparently being promoted by French rhetoric. The Community is, as de Gaulle taught it to be, a "union des Patries" and that is both the kind of union that Britain can support and the kind that can take firm root. The present French stress on union with federalist implications contradicts French behaviour: is it really possible to envisage a French president ceding sovereignty on any question to the Community except where it is clear that French and Community interests will remain identical?

This theme of union simply confuses the issue. President Mitterrand's speech yesterday illustrated this. After his grand but imprecise references to institutional change, the one concrete example he chose to make his point was the need for technological cooperation under government auspices. But this needs no institutional change. It is possible now. The danger with slogans about union is that they will impede unity, which is what the European Community should be about.

## COSTLY REPAIRS

The management of the National Coal Board made a bad mistake when it tried to put more pressure on the pit deputies to cross picket lines when the deputies were already having to tread a tense and difficult path in the mining communities with which they are so closely bound. Yesterday's last-minute decision by Nacods, the deputies union, to call off their strike was the result of some skillful repair work by the Board. It was aided by some heavy-handed behaviour by the notables of the TUC, who tried to use the deputies' threatened strike as a lever to pursue the NUM's aims. That pressure was counterproductive. The deputies resented it. And the TUC may now reflect that if it cannot pressurise Nacods, it is unlikely to carry much sway with Mr Arthur Scargill.

The NCB's repair work was, however, expensive, as tends to happen when one has to call in the emergency plumber. The deal adds one further concession to those made to the National Union of Mineworkers at Acat's at the deputies' behest. The Board's management of pits not scheduled for closure, will now also be subject to independent outside review, where the unions fear that a pit is being set up for closure, for instance by lack of investment. There will be yet longer consultation on the basis of a five-year rolling programme.

More important, however, is

that the concessions made to the NUM at the previous Acat's talks have now been set in concrete by the NCB's understanding with the deputies. Although there is room for some disagreement over the precise meaning of these concessions, they would certainly lead to the five pits subject to closure being relieved, at least until they have been put back through the even longer review procedure, and would lead to the plan to close 4 million tonnes of capacity being withdrawn for review.

These concessions were not even appropriate in March, when the NCB under Mr Ian MacGregor launched its programme to catch up on the previous backlog of closures of hopelessly uneconomic pits. They certainly make no sense now, when these threatened pits will require more money to rehabilitate them and the NCB will be calling on government for extra funds to invest in putting other more or less economic pits back into good order.

In this sense, the Nacods mistake has left the NCB in the position that it has conceded overgenerous final terms, which could only be justified by bringing a swift end to the strike, without gaining any settlement with the NUM on a return to work. What were the final terms, have, in effect become a starting point for today's renewed talks with the NUM leaders.

They could also be a source of unnecessary future acrimony. If the new terms offered are mere words as the NUM charges, and leave the ever more necessary and painful closure plans intact, then they could, at the very least, lead to charges of bad faith. If, on the other hand, they mark a real departure, then Mr MacGregor would have surrendered his own plan and left himself in no better position than his predecessor, Sir Norman Siddall, managed with far less strife and at far less public cost. It would do no-one any good to pretend that the uneconomic pits have been relieved and all is as before March.

The NCB may feel that it is unlikely to face this future dilemma since Mr Scargill has made it plain that the terms offered to the deputies cut no ice with him. From the NUM's response yesterday, it looks as though today's talks will again return to the ideological dispute about whether any pit can be closed on economic grounds, a point on which, as Mr Scargill knows, the NCB cannot possibly make concessions. If that is the case, it would be better to accept deadlock rather than continue a series of talks which has ceased to have any purpose, except for the malign one of kidding miners that they can delay the decision to go back to work in case a settlement turns up.

**Services rendered**  
From Mr J. C. Maxwell  
Mr. During the last three months the British public have seen the saving of York Minster from fire and the rescue of many victims from the recent Grand Hotel, Brighton, bomb attack and several serious rail crashes.

All these tasks have been accomplished by members of the British fire services who are our everyday heroes with taken-for-granted courage.

The leadership levels displayed by the officers commanding the fire service crews, together with the skill and determination shown by the fire fighters, can be credited to the training of all officer ranks, major and junior, conducted by the staff of the Fire Service College at Breton in Marsh, Gloucestershire.

In recognition of the way the fire service crews respond to man-made or natural disasters it would seem to me, writing as a former fire officer, that some form of national recognition should be afforded to the fire service that spearheads the rescue work.

Might it now be the appropriate time for the Home Secretary to recommend to her Majesty that the

Fire Service College becomes the Royal Fire Service College?  
Yours faithfully,  
J. C. MAXWELL,  
319 Dogthorpe Road,  
Peterborough, Cambridgeshire.

**Built on a rock**  
From Emeritus Professor G. N. Walton  
Sir, Professor E. L. Mascall (page 10, October 13) asks the question "Is the Christian religion derived from a revelation given by God in Christ... or is it something to be constructed by us...?"

The practising scientist learns throughout his life to fit his theories to the results of his experiments, and never, on any account, no matter what the pressures, to twist the results to fit some preconceived theory. Liberal and progressive theologians, judging in particular from recent programmes on the media, tend to do precisely what the scientist is forbidden to do: they tend to twist the meaning of the Christianity that we have been given to meet their own preconceived notions.

Academic theologians may plead that this accusation reverses the situation. For them, Christianity is the theory which must be made to fit

the facts of the modern world. It may be conceded that from the scientific background of the 19th century, when the atoms of the chemical elements were thought to be indestructible and eternal, and when biology presented a simplistic picture, there were some grounds for doubting the truth of Christianity.

Now, when we have been shown only too clearly that matter is a form of energy, like light and sound, which has no permanence except in the equations of mathematics, and when the molecular biologists have glimpsed the extraordinary coding of living things which dwarfs even our own literature, modern science provides no grounds whatsoever for questioning revealed religion.

In any case, Christianity is not a theory; it is a practical way of life, and a valid reason for worship. It has a structure given through the centuries which has served the world, and in particular this country, well and those who undermine it undermine western civilisation. Fortunately Christianity is founded on a rock that is not easily displaced.

Yours faithfully,  
GILBERT WALTON,  
Mullenders,  
Swan Lane,  
Burford, Oxfordshire.

## Due recognition for engineers

From the President of The Fellowship of Engineering  
Sir, Arthur Palmer has done much to encourage parliamentary interest in engineering and to emphasize the vital contribution which engineers make to national prosperity; so it was disappointing to read his confused letter published on October 20.

The fact is that the Finnieston report did a splendid job in diagnosing the obstacles which have prevented engineers making an optimum contribution to productive industry, but the proposals in the report were not so good.

They did not gain the support of the great majority of the engineering profession, for the simple reason that they would have involved the regulation of the profession by a government-appointed authority, and it is of course absurd to suggest, as Arthur Palmer does, that the influence and pay of engineers would in some way be enhanced by Parliament giving statutory recognition to engineers.

There are many more effective ways than that of enabling engineers to serve the nation: first, to provide better education and training facilities for engineers, at all levels and in greater numbers, and secondly to promote a clearer understanding of the engineering dimension.

The first is being energetically pursued by the Engineering Council which needs the active support of industry, trade unions, engineering institutions of all kinds, and the academic world, as well as of Government, which must make the investment needed to initiate the changes already proposed by the council. It is a mammoth task because technology is advancing so quickly.

But even more difficult to achieve is the clearer understanding of the engineering dimension, of the impact of technology on every aspect of our lives. Because it requires a widespread change of attitude there is no room for divisive tactics amongst those who accept the need for change.

So I hope that Arthur Palmer will use his considerable influence, not to revive agitation for the red herring of statutory registration but to impress on Parliament, government and Civil Service the need to support organizations like the Fellowship of Engineering and the Engineering Council, who in complementary ways are striving to create the change in attitudes which is so vital to our future.

Yours faithfully,  
CALDECOTE, President,  
The Fellowship of Engineering,  
2 Little Smith Street, SW1,  
October 23.

## Leaders we deserve

From Mr Julian Brazier  
Sir, We are repeatedly told that peoples get the leaders they deserve. We in the West have seen the Pope struck down and forgive his would-be assassin, the President of the United States joking as he wheeled him into surgery for his bullet wounds and the Queen bear up proudly in the face of a revolver.

Now we have seen the Prime Minister emerge icy calm from her shattered hotel and heard of one of her ministers joking from under the tons of masonry covering him and his wife.

If we deserve even a portion of this leadership, there must surely be more than a little hope for us all.

Yours faithfully,  
JULIAN BRAZIER,  
47 Moreton Place, SW1,  
October 17.

## Oh, M Porter!

From Mr C. F. Whittall  
Sir, A few weeks ago, after many years' absence from France, I decided to make a tour, by rail, of the greater French Gothic cathedrals.

When I got to France, however, and was faced with much entering and leaving stations and climbing into trains, I realised that I had burdened myself with far too heavy a suitcase for a very senior citizen.

I feared that the suitcase was going to ruin my holiday. But I need not have worried.

At every station strong men, and in two cases women, appeared and insisted on carrying the suitcase. On the occasion of the French President's state visit to London I should like to thank those kind people who enabled me to complete my pilgrimage and enjoy their country's greatest works of art.

Yours faithfully,  
C. F. WHITTALL,  
14 Chalfield Road,  
Cuckfield,  
West Sussex.

## Protection of churches

From Mr Ivor Bulmer-Thomas  
Sir, Lord Sandford (October 3) has drawn an idealistic picture of the Church of England's system of protecting churches which bears little correspondence with the facts.

So far as the Church Commissioners are concerned, the reality is shown by the fact that they would have destroyed the magnificent church of St John's, Smith Square, on which he looks out from his London home, if they had not been frustrated by the pertinacity of Lady Parker of Waddington, ably supported by her husband, the Lord Chief Justice, and a band of helpers. It is shown more recently by the fact that in the case of the only redundant church that has so far

## Checks and balances on police powers

From the Chairman of the Police Committee of the Association of County Councils

Sir, Saturday's leading article (October 20) on the important subject of police accountability, thrown into relief by the miners' strike, analyses the present system of split responsibility and comes with apparent logic to the conclusion that the present system should not continue. But does logic always provide the right answer?

It is certainly true that at present the boundaries between the rights and responsibilities of the chief constable, the Home Secretary and the police authority are blurred and sometimes all may not be as it appears. Given the present tension between a handful of police authorities and their chief constables, tension which may, at least in part, be due to conflict of personalities rather than in policies, it is natural to want to strain to make the crooked ways straight.

But when basic values - such as police mobility and efficiency in the war against crime on the one hand and the liberty of the subject in the face of police power on the other - seem opposed, the best system is one which embraces both and holds them in balance.

Interestingly, you suggest that our libertarian tradition points towards local accountability. Many of us would be disposed heartily to support that notion, but of course the preservation of liberty is harmed if local influence is pushed too far and the police come under local party political control.

I would certainly agree that the present balance - as your editorial implies - is tipped so far towards centralism that the local role can easily become notional. I hope that proper local accountability can be strengthened and better defined.

But liberty is best protected when the other powerful interests check and counter-check each other.

There are occasions when modern society might benefit from less, not more, integration and when greater effectiveness carries more hidden

perils than the diffusion of power and a deliberate choice to avoid one supreme authority.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN F. CHATFIELD, Chairman,  
Police Committee,  
Association of County Councils,  
Eaton House,  
66A Eaton Square, SW1,  
October 23.

From the Chairman of the Kent Police Authority

Sir, The Chairman of the South Yorkshire Police Committee was misleading himself and everybody else if he made the remarks attributed to him (report, October 18) that the police training centres produce "Nazi stormtroopers" in the decent chaps sent to them. Remarks of this sort have characterised the extreme left throughout the miners' strike and they are simply not true.

The training centre course forms the first 14 weeks of a recruit's two-year training programme. It has recently been extended from 10 weeks and redrawn following the Scarman report.

The training staff are carefully chosen and carefully trained to meet the needs of the course. Their objectives are to give to the recruits the basic knowledge and skills to assist them to police their own communities. More time than ever before is taken to prepare the recruits for dealing with the whole community in a caring and conciliatory manner, as well as upholding the law on our behalf with firmness and tact.

The tutors, men and women, are amongst the most dedicated in the police service and that they have been so attacked is contemptible. They should know they have the support of the British public and the confidence of their training centre committees.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN A. SPENCE, Chairman,  
Kent Police Authority,  
County Hall,  
Maidstone,  
Kent,  
October 22.

## Tridentine Mass

From the Chairman of the Latin Mass Society

Sir, I feel I can relieve a little of the "perplexity" referred to by your Rome correspondent in reporting the rehabilitation of the Latin Mass (October 17), as I now have before me the official Latin text of the document as published in *L'Osservatore Romano* of October 17.

It should firstly be pointed out that the Second Vatican Council did not "reject" the old Latin Mass - on the contrary, Article 4 of the Constitution on the Liturgy states that "Holy Mother Church holds all lawfully acknowledged rites to be of equal authority and dignity... She wishes to preserve and foster them in every way".

Accordingly, the "mental" acrobatics, referred to by Mr Nichols, "of asking for something which the council rejected whilst professing to believe in the council's work" are not required.

Moreover, it is simply not true that "requests for the old Mass must be accompanied by an explicit statement of acceptance of the Vatican Council and the new Mass".

This condition - norm [a] of the new Indult - actually requires that it shall be clearly and publicly understood - "Sine ambiguitate etiam publice constet..." - that the

groups utilising this facility are not associated with those who call into doubt the legitimacy or doctrinal rectitude of the Pauline Missal. This is really not the same as requiring an "explicit statement".

What is now clear is that it is the Holy Father's wish that those wanting the old Mass should be accommodated (*"ipsi Summus Pontifex, coequis istis observantia desiderat..."*). Accordingly, the restrictions associated with the Pauline Indult for England and Wales - its use only on special occasions, insistence on the mutilated 1965/67 version - are not found.

Now, it is the virtually intact 1962 Missal which is to be available, and bishops may permit its use *"per modum consuetudinis"* - that is, customarily.

What now remains to be seen is with what degree of magnanimity the world's Catholic bishops will exercise this facility; but in England and Wales, at least, we have cause to be hopeful that our bishops will adhere to the Holy Father's now manifest desire that there should be a place in the Church for those who remain devoted to its traditional liturgy.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
MICHAEL McMAHON, Chairman,  
The Latin Mass Society,  
3 Cork Street, W1,  
October 23.

## Local democracy

From Councillor Alan Woods

Sir, Your editorial column of October 17 opens with the statement that Labour-run London borough has just appointed as its social services director a councillor who is chairman of social services in a neighbouring Labour controlled borough.

The appointing borough, which you do not name, is of course, Camden.

Patrick Kodikara, our newly-appointed social services director, is indeed Chairman of the Hackney Social Services Committee. He also has 15 years of management experience in the social services and health fields both in London local government and in the National Health Service.

He was appointed by a panel

of councillors which included a member of Camden's Conservative opposition. The panel made a unanimous decision after two series of interviews to appoint Mr Kodikara from a field of 13 very strong candidates, all of whom had considerable experience and expertise in the social services and management fields.

I am at a loss to understand how this routine appointment of an outstanding candidate qualifies as "an example of degenerating civic culture" or of "councillors playing favourites with the general revenue".

Yours faithfully,  
ALAN WOODS, Chairman,  
Social Services Committee,  
London Borough of Camden,  
Members' Room,  
Town Hall,  
Euston Road, NW1,  
October 17.

## South African four

From Mr L. G. Baxter and others

Sir, The South African Foreign Minister has stated that the decision of his Government not to return, as it had undertaken, the four South Africans accused of unlawful arms dealing was reached on the basis of "legal advice".

Let it be thought that the South African Government's view of the law is shared by the legal community in South Africa as a whole, we would draw your attention to representation made by various legal

bodies to the Minister urging him to reconsider. We ourselves strongly deplore the South African Government's action, for which we believe there is no legal justification.

Yours,  
L. G. BAXTER, J. R. LUND,  
A. K. BLOMBAERT, M. L. DUPTON,  
A. BORDWALE, A. S. MATHEWS,  
A. G. COWLING, M. L. MATHEWS,  
B. T. DALLING, J. R. L. MILTON,  
University of Natal,  
School of Law,  
PO Box 375,  
Pietermaritzburg,  
South Africa,  
October 15.

## 'Good life' but not enough brass

From Mr P. A. Sergeant

Sir, Your column headed "Living is cheapest in Yorkshire" by Robin Young (October 17) must be grossly misleading when Mr Young says that this "suggests that the good life is most easily found in Yorkshire".

On the contrary, the cheapness of living in Yorkshire (and Humberside) seems almost wholly from the fact that people in these areas do not have the money for "the good life". Those supplying the necessities mentioned in the lists of the cost of living have to bring down their prices because there is not the money available for people to purchase the goods mentioned in those lists at the prices ruling in the South-East. If it were true at all that "the good life" is most easily found in Yorkshire, then it is also true to say that it is not found by the people who live there.

Not long ago I calculated from certain data that the average income of a person living in Essex was £1,000 a year more than the average income of a person living in this part of the country. Probably my calculation was based on insufficient data but at least it indicates where "the good life" is to be obtained.

Perhaps the people of Bradford, Barnsley and Rotherham can comfort themselves with the thought that at least they have splendid countryside in the neighbourhood. For Scunthorpe, in addition we have one of the pleasantest industrial towns in the country.

Yours faithfully,  
P. A. SERGEANT,  
25 Oswald Road,  
Scunthorpe,  
Lincolnshire,  
October 18.

## Gallery extension

From Lord Esler

Sir, Mr Conrad Jameson ends his letter (October 13) with the routine condemnation of all modern architecture.

For much of his life my father (b 1881), like most of his generation, had a horror of Victorian architecture and particularly of the ubiquitous works of Sir Gilbert Scott. He used to pull the leg of his friend, Hal Goodhart-Rendel, for affecting (as he thought) to admire monsters like Butterfield, Brooks and Teulon. He became, in old age, the first chairman of the Victorian Society.

Time has the last laugh, particularly on those, like your correspondent, who speak with contempt of whole classes of human beings and whole periods of artistic history.

Yours faithfully,  
ESHER,  
Agios Nikolaos,  
Crete,  
October 15.

## VAT on books

From Mr Edwin Whiting

Sir, I recently received a copy of the Customs and Excise leaflet, 701/33/84, VAT Liability: Law. Looking through the lists of zero-rated and exempt items many possibilities for the extension of VAT come to mind.

My selection of items that could be taxed is: newspaper advertising, advertising services, ship and aircraft repairs, transport by coach (i.e., abolish the exemption for vehicles carrying more than 12 passengers), services to shipping and aircraft, travel agency services, package holidays, protective clothing, motor cyclist helmets, insurance commission, insurance claims handling, hire purchase finance commission, financial services, bank charges, and fees for private education and tuition.

All the above would seem to be preferable to books on grounds of a more inelastic demand, less adverse effect on employment, smaller tendency for VAT to be offset or reclaimed and less long-term damage to the informed society.

Yours faithfully,  
EDWIN WHITING,  
Manchester Business School,  
University of Manchester,  
Booth Street West,  
Manchester,  
October 18.

## Sauce of learning

From Mr H. J. G. Richards

Sir, Dr John Hunter (October 20) is not alone. There must be many who miss the opportunity to polish up their Franglais by constant study of the description of the virtues of HP sauce.

Perhaps it was omitted from the label after a prolonged but unsuccessful attempt to capture the French market for bottled sauces. This would not be surprising: HP sauce, like most others produced in this country, is admirably suited for Anglo-Saxon cooking, as it disguises rather than enhances the taste of our food.

It is said that a Frenchman, on recovering from his first application of the sauce, studied the bottle intently and opined that it could be more briefly and just as accurately labelled in his language as *sauce incendiaire*.

Yours faithfully,  
H. J. G. RICHARDS,  
16 Manor Wood Road,  
Purley,  
Surrey,  
October 20.

From Lieutenant-Commander J. H. McGivering, RNR (ret)

Sir, Face Dr John Hunter, give me the multi-lingual Anglousure label at any meal!

Yours obedient servant,  
J. H. MCGIVERING,  
17 Adlestons Park,  
Aldershot,  
Weybridge,  
Surrey,  
October 20.



## COURT AND SOCIAL

### COURT CIRCULAR

**BUCKINGHAM PALACE**  
October 24: The President of the French Republic this morning drove to St James's Palace in a Carriage Procession, accompanied by a Captain's Escort with Standards of the Household Cavalry, under the Command of Captain James Hewitt. The Life Guards, and received High Commissioners of the Commonwealth Countries and Ambassadors in London.

Madame Mitterrand this morning visited the Royal Academy of Arts and was received by the Secretary (Mr Piers Rodgers). The President of the French Republic and Madame Mitterrand visited the Palace of Westminster and were received by the Lord Great Chamberlain (the Marquess of Cholmondeley).

The Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House of Commons (the Viscount Whitlaw) and the Lord Privy Seal and Leader of the House of Commons (the Right Hon John Biffen, MP) were present.

The President of the French Republic was conducted to the Dais by the Lord Chancellor (the Lord Halsbury of Kingsland) and the Speaker (the Right Hon Bernard Weatherill, MP) and addressed the Members of both Houses of Parliament in the Royal Gallery.

The Queen's Body Guard of the Yeomen of the Guard were on duty. The President of the French Republic and Madame Mitterrand were entertained at luncheon by the Prime Minister (Mrs Margaret Thatcher, MP) and the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs (the Right Hon Francis Pym, MP).

After luncheon the President of the French Republic had talks with the Prime Minister (Mrs Margaret Thatcher, MP) and the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs (the Right Hon Francis Pym, MP).

The President of the French Republic and Madame Mitterrand were entertained at a Banquet by the Right Hon the Lord Mayor of London at Guildhall.

The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester were present. Before the Banquet a Court of Common Council was held and their Excellencies received an Address of Welcome.

His Excellency Mr Richard C. Demeritte was received in audience by the Queen upon his appointment as High Commissioner for the Commonwealth of the Bahamas in London.

Mrs Demeritte had the honour of being received by Her Majesty. His Excellency Dr Gale Loro and Señora de Loro were received in audience by the Queen and took leave upon His Excellency relinquishing his appointment as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from Ecuador to the Court of St James's.

Mr R. A. Fyfe-Walker was received in audience by the Queen and kissed hands on his appointment as Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at Islamabad.

Mrs Fyfe-Walker had the honour of being received by the Queen. Mr A. M. Fraser (Chairman of the Board of Customs and Excise) had the honour of being received by Her Majesty.

The Queen this afternoon opened the Ashley Centre, Epsom. Having been received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Surrey (the Lord Hamilton of Dalzell) and the Mayor of Epsom and Ewell (Councillor Norma Fryer), the Queen unveiled a commemorative plaque and afterwards visited the Playhouse.

**Mr S. E. Prior-Palmer and Lady Julia Lloyd George.**  
The engagement is announced between Simon, son of the late Major-General C. E. Prior-Palmer and Lady Doreen Prior-Palmer, and Julia, daughter of Lord Lloyd George of Dwyfor and Lady Countess Lloyd George of Dwyfor.

**Mr T. J. Harris and Miss T. J. Mecklenburgh.**  
The engagement is announced between Timothy James, son of Professor Sir Alan Harris, CBE, and Miss T. J. Harris, daughter of Mr and Mrs F. R. Mecklenburgh, of Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire.

**Mr S. B. Burke and Dr J. Dixon.**  
The engagement is announced between Stephen, elder son of Mr and Mrs P. B. Burke, of Kent Avenue, Ealing, and Jennifer, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs P. Dixon, of Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

**Mr B. P. N. Garside and Miss S. J. S. Garside.**  
The engagement is announced between Bruce Peter, second son of Mr and Mrs T. N. Garside, of Guildford, Surrey, and Sally, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs E. H. T. Silva, of Newenden, Kent.

**Mr R. S. Greenwell and Miss J. C. W. Gubbins.**  
The engagement is announced between Robert, younger son of the late Major P. F. Greenwell and of Mrs P. F. Greenwell, of Phillimore Gardens, London, W2, and Claire, elder daughter of the late Mr R. M. S. Gubbins and of Mrs J. H. Gubbins, of Old Granary Farm, Little Osbourne, North Yorkshire.

**Mr N. Hadfield and Miss L. Matthews.**  
The engagement is announced between Nigel, younger son of Mr and Mrs Douglas Hadfield, of Milton of Campsie, Glasgow, and Lucinda, daughter of the late Mr Donald Matthews and Mrs Donald Matthews, of Lennox Gardens, London.

**Mr M. Hallett and Miss C. E. Churchill.**  
The engagement is announced between Michael Hallett, elder son of Mr and Mrs Peter Hallett, of Sydney, Australia, and Christine Elaine, second daughter of Mr John Churchill and the late Mary Churchill, and stepdaughter of Mrs John Churchill, of Maidenhead, Berkshire.

**Mr S. Harris and Miss T. Fennell.**  
The engagement is announced between Simon, younger son of Mr Philip Harris, of Sandhurst, Dyfed, South Wales, and Tessa, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Fennell, The Woodlands, Fotherby, Louth, Lincolnshire.

**Mr M. J. C. Highton and Miss D. Delacour.**  
The engagement is announced between Michael, elder son of Mr Kenneth A. Highton, of Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire, and the late Mrs Jeanne Highton, and Diane, daughter of Mr and Mrs Leon Delacour, of Brussels, Belgium.

**Mr S. J. Russell.**  
The Queen was represented by Lieutenant-Colonel Lord Charters of Amisfield and the Duke of Edinburgh by Mr Brian McGrath at a memorial service for Sir John Russell held yesterday at St Martin-in-the-Fields. Prince Michael of Kent was present. The Rev Charles Hodge officiated, assisted by the Bishop of Gibraltar in Europe, who said the commendation.

**Mr Alexander Russell, son, read from John Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress and Lord Home of the Hirsel gave an address. The Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs was represented by Sir Edwin Arrowsmith and the Diplomatic Service by Sir Anthony Acland. Others present included:**

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## Forthcoming marriages

**Mr N. S. Hunt and Miss S. Berridge.**  
The engagement is announced between Nigel, eldest son of Mr and Mrs R. H. G. Hunt, of Harleston, Staffordshire, and Suzanne, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Philip Berridge, of East Horsley, Surrey.

**Mr M. C. Pollard and Miss F. J. Mackintosh.**  
The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Wing Commander and Mrs N. A. Pollard, of Winterborne Kingston, Dorset, and Fiona, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs K. L. Mackintosh, of London W2.

**Mr H. Pritchard and Miss D. Reuben.**  
The engagement is announced between Harold, younger son of the late Dr T. Gwynn Pritchard and Dr Meira Pritchard, of Penryn, Cornwall, and Denise, only daughter of Mr and Mrs H. Reuben, of Haywards Heath, Sussex.

**Mr O. W. N. Ward and Miss M. S. Edgley.**  
The engagement is announced between Oliver, only son of Mr and Mrs Roger Ward, of Queen's Club Gardens, London, W14, and Melanie, daughter of Mr and Mrs M. S. Edgley, of East Hastings House, Faringdon, Oxfordshire.

**Mr J. E. A. Barnes and Miss E. S. Rushton.**  
The engagement is announced between James, younger son of the late Mr J. E. A. Barnes and Mrs J. E. A. Barnes, of Winslow, Warwickshire, and Elisabeth, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs P. L. Rushton, of Beckington, Bath.

**Mr A. J. G. Bewick and Miss K. D. Brook.**  
The engagement is announced between Guy, eldest son of Mr and Mrs A. J. G. Bewick, of Bolton, Lancashire, and Katherine, daughter of the late Mr Mike Brook and Mrs Margaret Brook, of Garvagh, North Yorkshire.

**Mr S. F. Williams and Miss R. J. Fulljames.**  
The engagement is announced between Simon, son of Mr and Mrs S. F. Williams, of Chalfont St Giles, Buckinghamshire, and Rosemary, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Fulljames, of Rhinow, Cardiff.

**Mr R. J. S. Edwards and Miss B. J. S. Edwards.**  
The engagement is announced between Richard John, elder son of Wing Commander and Mrs M. B. Edwards, of 91 Belfield Road, Bracknell, and Beverly Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs I. S. Edwards, of 27 Oliver Road, South Ascot.

**Mr D. J. Yeomans and Miss A. M. Reed.**  
The engagement is announced between David John, son of Mr and Mrs E. Yeomans, of Brockwell, Chertsey, and Alison Margaret, daughter of Brigadier and Mrs W. J. Reed, of Chertsey, Surrey.

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## OBITUARY

### PROFESSOR PAUL DIRAC

A founder of quantum mechanics

Professor Paul Dirac, OM, FRS, who won the Nobel Prize for physics in 1933, died on October 20 in Florida, United States, at the age of 82. He was Professor of Mathematics at Cambridge from 1933 to 1969.

Dirac was born on August 8, 1902, at Bristol, the son of a Swiss father and an English mother. He attended the Merchant Venturers School, Bristol, and afterwards Bristol University, where he graduated in electrical engineering in 1921.

After two years study of mathematics he entered St John's College, Cambridge, in 1923 as an Exhibitioner and research student. In 1925 he made his reputation by the publication of a paper which established the fundamental principles of quantum mechanics, and which led to the demonstration of the equivalence of the apparently dissimilar formalisms being developed by Schrödinger and Heisenberg.

Dirac then turned his attention to the combination of relativity and quantum theory, laying the foundations of quantum field theory by his discussion of the electromagnetic field and making his greatest discovery by the formulation of the relativistic equation of the electron. The theory of the positron, the first example of anti-matter, followed, together with his triumphant experimental vindication shortly afterwards.

This brilliant sequence of researches established Dirac as the greatest British theoretical physicist since Maxwell, and led to the award of the Nobel Prize in 1933. His active professional life continued for 40 more years but he did not achieve again the splendid successes of that early work.

He was a man of very well defined interests and tastes, with little sympathy either for the complexities of nuclear physics or for the somewhat inelegant mathematical procedures which were to bring important further developments in quantum electrodynamics, the subject he had founded.

In 1930 appeared the first edition of his book *The Principles of Quantum Mechanics*. It established itself as one of the great classics of scientific literature. His lectures at Cambridge were closely modelled on it, and they conveyed to generations of students a powerful impression of the coherence and elegance of quantum theory. They constituted his principal contribution to education, for he took very few research students.

Dirac brought to private life the logical directness which he used to such effect in his scientific work. Many stories illustrative of this attitude to a question at the end of a lecture are typical. The man indicated that he had not followed a particular point of Dirac's argument. A silence followed and at last the chairman asked if Professor Dirac would deal with the question. "It was a statement, not a question" came the reply.

Dirac became a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1930, received the Royal Medal in 1932 and the Copley Medal in 1952. He was elected Lucasian Professor of Mathematics at Cambridge in 1932, and was then Professor of Physics at Florida State University. In 1973 he was appointed to the Order of Merit.

He married in 1937 Margit Wigdor, a physicist, the sister of Eugene Wigner, a distinguished theoretical physicist, and there were two children in the marriage.

Oskar Werner, the Austrian stage and film actor, died on October 23 of a heart attack at the age of 61.

A sensitive performer, with blond hair and a round, boyish face, he had a distinguished career in the German-speaking theatre before reaching out to a wider audience through his roles in international films in the 1960s.

He was nominated for an Oscar for his portrayal of the physicist in Stanley Kramer's *Shine a Light*, but he will be best remembered as the young German in love with Jeanne Moreau in Francois Truffaut's lyrical triangle story set before and after the First World War, *Jules et Jim*.

He also worked with Truffaut on *Fahrenheit 451*, an adaptation of the science fiction novel by Ray Bradbury which was made in Britain. His other British films included the John G. Crome thriller *The Spy Who Came in from the Cold*, the romantic drama *Interlude*, and *The Shoes of the Fisherman*.

He was born Oskar Josef Bachschmeyer in Vienna on November 13, 1922. At 19 he became a regular member of the Viennese Burgtheater, one of the leading German-language theatre companies, and went on to play a variety of classical and modern roles.

He also appeared at other theatres in Vienna, at the Salzburg Festival and in Germany and Switzerland. Among his notable performances were the title role in Jean Anouilh's *Becket*, St Just in *Danton's Death* and a Hamlet at Frankfurt in 1952.

He made his first film, *Angel with a Shotgun*, in 1948. Three years later he went to Anatole Litvak's anti-Nazi spy adventure, *Decision Before Dawn*, and in 1955 a last strong supporting role in *Der Letzte Akt*. G. W. Pabst's film about the last days of Hitler, *Lola Montez*, the last picture directed by Max Ophüls, which he helped to set up.

He was later put under contract by Twentieth Century Fox, but he left Hollywood in the 1960s after a dispute with the company and most of his subsequent films were made in Britain. His last important picture, *Joyeux Noël*, came out in 1976.

In recent years he had worked mainly in the German and Austrian theatre, both as actor and impresario. He was married at different times to Elizabeth Kallina, an actress, and to Anne Power, the adopted daughter of the American film actor, Tyrone Power. Both marriages were dissolved. He is survived by a son and a daughter.

Henri Michaux, the Belgian-born French poet, playwright, essayist and artist, died in Paris on October 17. He was 85.

A "Belgian of Paris" as he was wont to describe himself (he became a French citizen in 1959) he produced poems, and indeed a whole range of other writings, of a high degree of originality. Early in his creative life he had brushed against Surrealism. Certainly his early reputation was as one of the *avant garde*, and his later experiments with hallucinogenic "drugs" in which "certainly inspired some of his paintings and illustrations - did nothing to dispel this.

But he remained to the end, highly individual, a distinctive and different performer in the two modes, verbal and visual. Henri Michaux was born at Namur on May 24, 1899. His father was a lawyer and both parents were Catholic. Educated at a Jesuit college, he became ill and was sent to the country.

At twenty, finding himself over-introspective he ran away to sea on a collier and experienced the rough life and long voyages around North and South America. He established himself with the comic series of fifteen sketches in *Un Certain Plume* (1930), *A Certain Plume*, Plume, his own apothecary of Charlie Chaplin, is a defenceless figure whose offensiveness releases the vilest impulses in others.

Michaux then wrote *Un Barbare en Asie* (1931), translated into English as *A Barbarian in Asia* in 1949. This individualistic travel book was based on a voyage to the Far East. Meanwhile he had come under the influence of Jules Supervielle, and (later) the Surrealists. He published experimental verse in *avant garde* periodicals (in some of these, perfectly controlled, he parodied states of extreme insanity - in order to avoid becoming subject to them), co-authored a book on astrology (1941), and edited the mystical periodical *Hermès* (1937-9).

In 1944 he published *L'Épave des déesses*, translated as *The Shipwreck of the Goddesses* (1951). Here he explored his divided self - the persecutor and the persecuted, and the struggle between them.

**Mr L. A. Phil and Miss T. P. Lawson.**  
The engagement is announced between Ivan, younger son of Mr and Mrs A. Hill, of Perry, Cambridgeshire, and Thomasina, second daughter of Mr A. Lawson, MP, of Westminster, London, and Lady Ayer, of Marylebone, London.

**Mr G. G. Faudless and Miss L. M. Matthews.**  
The engagement is announced between Graham, son of Mr and Mrs C. G. Faudless, of Surbiton, Surrey, and Liane, only daughter of Mr and Mrs F. G. Matthews, of Potapool, Gwent.

**Mr H. J. Grogan and Miss S. E. Woodward.**  
The engagement is announced between John, son of Mr and Mrs H. R. Grogan, of Hove, Sussex, and Sarah, daughter of Mr A. S. Woodward, of Luxembourg, and Mrs E. A. Woodward, of St. Albans, Herts.

**Mr A. K. M. Ashton and Dr F. M. White.**  
The engagement is announced between Andrew, only son of Squadron Leader and Mrs H. Ashton, of Wallingford, Oxfordshire, and Patricia, daughter of the late Mr N. E. White and of Mrs M. P. White, of Maidenhead, Berkshire.

**Mr H. G. Backmaster and Miss J. M. Hobbouse.**  
The engagement is announced between Henry, son of Mr Richard Backmaster, of Rayway, Warwickshire, and the late Mrs Jacqueline Backmaster, and Julia, daughter of Mr. Hugh Hobbouse, of East Compton, Somerset, and Mrs Alastair Timpon, of Castle Combe, Wiltshire.

**Mr P. H. E. Davison and Miss C. S. H. Robertson.**  
The engagement is announced between Pierre, son of the late Colonel Raoul Davison and Mme Davison, of Lyons, and Christian, daughter of Major Donald S. Robertson, of Winkfield, Berkshire, and Mrs Hersey Robertson, of Minard, Argyl.

**Mr J. D. J. Batcher and Miss L. Fordham.**  
The engagement is announced between James Daurice Justin, elder son of Mr and Mrs James Batcher, of Hookwood House, Lymington, Surrey, and Louise, elder daughter of Mr Jeremy Fordham, of Odsey Park, Ashwell, Hertfordshire, and Mrs P. J. Fordham, of 66 Shawfield Street, London, SW3.

**Mr D. A. Cameron-Clarke and Miss L. L. Lachman.**  
The engagement is announced between Alistair Cameron-Clarke, of St. Bréide, Jersey, Channel Islands, and the late Mr S. M. Cameron-Clarke, and Mrs M. Aiken, of Kensington, London, and Linda Lee, eldest daughter of the late Charles R. Lachman and Mrs R. Lachman, of New York, United States.

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THE TIMES

## FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

## Controls, more controls or free exchange?

Free convertibility of sterling is now such a vital, taken-for-granted condition for international banking and investment, and such an indispensable part of the growth of the City of London as a world financial services centre, that it is easy to forget exchange controls were abolished only five years ago yesterday.

Although there was a short run-up, and free convertibility was clearly a part of the new Tory market philosophy, Sir Geoffrey Howe's decision back in 1979 came as something of a surprise. Before taking office he had envisaged a slow, cautious process of dismantling controls. The 1979 oil price hike changed all that. Sterling was the flavour of the year. Sir Geoffrey opted for wholesale demolition. And it had no discernible effect for more than a year.

Whether the City investors who had been so anxious to free overseas investment controls decided to back the pound along with everyone else, or whether it took them a year to adjust to freedom is hard to say. But overseas investment took off with a vengeance in 1980, accelerating from £400m in the first half to more than £1 billion in the second.

Overseas investment then continued right up until this year, when institutional net buying of foreign shares slowed to £300m in the first quarter, then swung into disinvestment of £700m in the second quarter — the first three month period in which institutions had been net sellers of foreign shares since 1976. To some extent, this marked the long-awaited completion of the restructuring of portfolios. The big investors had brought their proportions of North American and Far Eastern shares up to the long-term desired level. And the institutions were holding back some

money for British Telecom and British Airways, utility shares not previously available here.

The main lesson of the five intervening years has been that economic ideas conceived in the age of exchange controls now look decidedly old-fashioned.

The first casualty was the idea that investment financed by public borrowing automatically crowded out private investment. With free currency convertibility, capital flows abroad had to be included in the calculations. As the Bank of England conceded in 1981, "the effectiveness of exchange controls in the past is likely to mean that in the absence of controls, domestic interest rates are now somewhat higher."

The disappearance of the old Bretton Woods exchange control system, under which domestic saving, essentially financed domestic investment, meant that other countries' public borrowing could just as easily absorb our savings as our own. There is little doubt that, via high interest rates, the US deficit has "crowded out British" investment.

The abolition of exchange controls has likewise made nonsense of Labour's exchange-rate policy. Abolishing exchange controls has almost certainly left the pound lower than it would otherwise be. Yet Mr Roy Hattersley still plans to impose exchange controls to keep funds in this country (and even to compel their return); while at the same time he is aiming to devalue the pound. To Mr Hattersley, devaluation via the market is wrong, whereas devaluation by Government fiat is right. He seems to want controls to keep the pound up, plus more controls to get it down.

## Tokyo eases the City's way

Encouraging signals were coming out of Tokyo yesterday on the vexed issue of access to the Japanese securities market for British brokers and merchant banks. Talks this week between British and Japanese financial officials may have succeeded in breaking the logjam, which has long delayed applications by a number of British companies seeking securities licences in Tokyo, thus defusing the threat of retaliation against Japanese securities houses in London.

This week's talks were conceived some months ago, and were originally intended as a fairly general mutual education session on developments in each other's markets. But increasingly the difficulties and bureaucratic delays encountered by British companies in Tokyo have come to the fore. Attempts to graduate from representative offices, which are allowed to do very little, to branch office status which brings with it important concessions on commission rates, appear to have been blocked, and the suspicion grew that the Japanese wanted to relate the issue to the ambitions of their securities houses in London.

The British position has been that there was already a large imbalance between what Japanese securities houses could do in London and what their British counterparts could do in Tokyo. The team, headed by Mr Geoffrey Little, second permanent secretary at the Treasury, and including officials from the Bank of England and the Department of Trade, went to Tokyo to try to correct this imbalance.

Mr Little conceded yesterday that their minor diplomatic triumph will have to be put to the test of time. But on the question of licences, he was optimistic. "We will be very disappointed if there isn't action by the end of the year. I think we have made good progress, but the proof of the pudding is in the eating," he said.

Rather more enigmatically, a senior Japanese official said that while the timing of any approvals is undecided, the efforts to secure licences by Wice, the Hongkong-based subsidiary of Exco International, and merchant banks Kleinwort, Benson and S. G. Warburg, will go on "without delay".

The British team appears to have made clear, implicitly if not explicitly, that the treatment of British institutions in Japan would determine how well Japanese brokers are treated in London as new markets open up. They also seem to have successfully deflected attempts to tie the issue of licences for British brokers to efforts by Japanese brokers, led by Nomura Securities, to gain banking licences in London.

Japan's finance ministry found little to cheer about in the Bank of England's tough stance on Nomura's chances of obtaining a banking licence. The Bank said that it is prepared to consider applications from non-bank foreign financial institutions provided they are supervised under normal banking criteria by the bank authorities at home. Strictly speaking, Japanese law prevents that.

This round of talks, however, sets the stage for negotiations later in the year over such delicate points. The Japanese are hopeful that a solution will be found to the Nomura problem somewhat along the lines of agreements which have allowed American securities companies to hold London banking licences.

Apart from brokers' licences in Tokyo, the British side was highly concerned over how British banks will be treated under new guidelines being drawn up, under pressure from the United States, on foreign bank participation in trust banking and investment management activities in Japan.

## Imports rise to a record as trade deficit falls by £764m

By David Smith  
Economics Correspondent

Britain's overseas trade was in deficit by £764m last month, as imports rose to a new record level. Last month's visible trade deficit was larger than the £716m recorded for the whole of last year.

The invisibles account, shipping, insurance, banking and interest, was estimated to have been in surplus by £250m last month, producing a deficit on current account of £514m.

Sterling was largely unaffected by the poor trade figures, with the attention of the foreign exchanges focused on developments in the miner's strike and continuing dollar weakness.

The pound gained 1.5 cents against the dollar to close at £1.2225, and two pence against the Deutsche mark at DM3.6950. The sterling index rose 0.3 to 74.9.

Sterling was helped by the

Balance of Payments	
	Visible Current balance (£m)
1982	+2,384 +5,206
1983	-716 +2,916
1984 Q1	-59 +472
Q2	-1,183 -263
July	-137 +113
August	-568 -318
September	-764 -514

Source: Department of Trade &amp; Industry

deputies' decision to call off their strike, and by hopes that new talks between the National Coal Board and the National Union of Mineworkers could produce a solution to the 33-week-old strike.

The dollar lost ground on expectations that US interest rates could be reduced further. The Federal fund rate dropped to 6 per cent, although this was largely for technical reasons.

US consumer prices, up 0.4 per cent last month after 0.5 per cent rise in August, had little impact. The dollar lost 2.2 pence against the Deutsche mark at DM3.6950, the dollar index fell 0.8 to 140.3.

Imports rose by £103m last month to a new record level of £6,621m. This was in spite of a £166m fall in oil imports. There may have been some bringing forward of imports in expectation of new value-added tax regulations, due next Thursday, which will require the payment of VAT entry, although the effect is unquantifiable.

Exports fell to £5,857m last month, although this still represented the third highest monthly total on record. The drop of £94m from August's record level is accounted for by a return to more normal trade levels, after the August figures were artificially boosted by the recovery from the dock strike.

The surplus on oil, which has been affected by increased imports of fuel oil for use in power stations, rose last month, from £417m to £517m. The September 1984 oil surplus is £105m up on that recorded in September 1983.

City estimates suggest that the miners' strike has produced a £210m-£230m worsening in the oil surplus, and added £30m-£40m a month to coal imports.

Even so, the £250m a month balance of payments cost of the coal strike does not appear to have been a factor in Britain's poorer trade position last month.

Britain's current account has declined from a surplus of £5.2 billion in 1982, through a £2.9 billion surplus last year, to a deficit of £530m in the first nine months of 1984. The Treasury's Budget-time forecast was for a £2 billion surplus this year.

## JMB faces legal action says client

By Peter Wilson-Smith  
Banking Correspondent

Legal action has been taken against Johnson Matthey Bankers in connection with charter payments due to shipowners, but allegedly withheld by JMB.

Mr Mahmoud Sipra, a client of JMB and whose interests include shipping, said yesterday that the legal action was connected with payments due on vessels chartered by his company Bulk Ferries to carry grain from the US to Iraq.

Mr Sipra said that certain owners of vessels who have been on time charter to his company had taken out an injunction against JMB.

The Bank of England, which took over JMB to save it from collapse, refused to comment on the question of withheld payments yesterday.

JMB holds shares over a number of ships as security for facilities. Mr Sipra said yesterday that his involvement with JMB was "on a fairly broad scale" but was secured in most cases.

"We have no defaults. No loans have been cancelled," he added. Negotiations between the clearing banks and the Bank of England over their £50m share in the £100m package of indemnities being arranged were still dragging on yesterday.

Other groups being asked to contribute have heard nothing from the Bank of England for two weeks now. Members of the gold ring, who agreed early on to a £20m contribution, wrote last week to the Bank requesting details about the terms of the indemnities.

There is speculation that a raised capital-raising package for JMB's former parent, Johnson Matthey plc, may emerge shortly. It is expected to meet some of the objections of institutional shareholders.

## Commodities broker bought by Gerrard

Gerrard & National, the City's big discount house, is to take a 50 per cent stake in Inter Commodities, the commodities and financial futures broker, to expand its services before restructuring of London markets.

In a separate move, the Merchant Navy Pension Fund revealed the sale of its 6.75 per cent stake in Union Discount, a close rival of Gerrard among the discount houses, as part of a bid by the fund to scale down its exposure to financial companies.

Inter Commodities, was set up in 1972 by the joint managing directors, Mr Mark Davies and Mr Christopher Harries. It has been closely linked to GNI, the joint venture set up to trade as brokers on the London futures market.

Mr Bishop was sharply criticised by the Takeover Panel and in a Department of Trade report in 1978 for his share dealings during a takeover of Grendon Trust, where he was a director.

The report describes Mr Bishop as "irresponsible" and "devious" when he was a witness during the investigation.

Mr Bishop, age 49, a former director of Scottish Investments and Erskine House Investment Trust, said last night: "I accepted the appointment because I am interested in the growth area of financial services. I don't think my past record will deter people from dealing with Grovebell."

Mr Advani said yesterday: "Mr Bishop has told me that he has been rapped over the knuckles a number of times, but always proved that everything he

## Edwardes in dispute over Dunlop post

By Ian Griffiths

The shake-up of the senior management team at Dunlop Holdings took on another aspect late last night, with a dispute over how Sir Michael Edwardes became a candidate for the job of running the ailing tyre and engineering group.

Earlier, Sir Maurice Hodgson, the Dunlop chairman, said that Sir Michael had approached the company's headhunters to offer his services after the board and the banks involved in putting together the capital reconstruction programme, had agreed on their own candidate for the job of chief executive.

However, last night sources close to Sir Michael said that this was not the case, and that he had been approached by Sir John Trevelyan of the headhunters, Goddard Key Rogers, which was acting on behalf of Dunlop.

The approach was made when Standard Telephone and Cables was taking over ICL, where Sir Michael was then chairman.

The banks were informed of Sir Michael's interest even though the as yet unnamed candidate for the chief executive job had been agreed.

Some of the banks are keen to see Sir Michael take the job and the wranglings over the shape of the management team have proved to be an obstacle to agreement on the capital reconstruction package.

Dunlop has been looking for a new chief executive to replace Mr Alan Lord since June, when the banks said they wanted a new man. Sir Michael would like Mr Lord to carry on as non-executive deputy chairman to ensure a smooth transition. He sees his own role much as



Sir Michael: need for executive continuity

a caretaker chairman to see the company through its reconstruction and reorganization and has completed one year of what he believes is a two year job.

Sir Maurice said: "I still have the objective that there should be an orderly transfer from the present managing director to the new one in a way which allows the present managing director to continue with his extremely important responsibilities for the transfer of the European tyre business, the future divestments and the deeply involved and essential hand over to his successor."

He added: "If the banks said they would prefer Sir Michael, I would wish we could still do an orderly transition. Whoever is the chief executive, I believe there has to be continuity of key people in the executive group, especially Alan Lord to preside over that transition."

Commenting on Sir Michael, the Dunlop chairman said: "We have differing assessments of the nature of the problem. I am not saying he is necessarily wrong. There is no personal animosity."

## Most school leavers take factory jobs

By Our Economics Correspondent

Manufacturing industry is still the main source of employment for school leavers, while about one in seven of 16-year olds does not enter employment or Youth Training Scheme on leaving school.

These results, contained in a survey in the latest *Employment Gazette*, are based on a sample of people who reached the age of 16 during 1982-83.

According to the survey 44 per cent remained in full-time education. Of those who left school, 48 per cent joined the YTS, 38 per cent gained jobs independently of the YTS and 14 per cent were still unemployed last December.

The 14 per cent figure may underestimate the true position as the survey response was incomplete.

Most job opportunities for school leavers continue to be in the "productive" industries. Manufacturers provided jobs for 33.2 per cent of those who obtained "real" jobs on leaving school, other productive jobs provided work for a further 15.4 per cent.

Services accounted for 26.8 per cent of jobs, and transport and distribution 24.5 per cent.

The survey also examined training available to 16-year olds entering employment. About 40.4 per cent of boys and 44.3 per cent of girls obtained no training at all. 26.4 per cent of boys and 40.8 per cent of girls were offered up to six months training, while 33.1 per cent of boys and 14.8 per cent of girls entered training programmes lasting for more than six months.

## Lloyd's to pay fee

Insurance companies are to be charged £3,000 a year for the privilege of being supervised by the Department of Trade and Industry, according to Mr Alex Fletcher, Minister for Corporate and Consumer Affairs. In a written reply to a Parliamentary question yesterday.

The Insurance Companies Act requires the 648 registered companies to file annual returns. Legislation will be introduced to make them pay for doing so. The £3,000 fee would cover this year's estimated £2.5m public cost of the supervision. Lloyd's will be charged as one body, as it submits one return.

## STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index: 1125.4 down 2.9  
Nifty 1123.5 down 1123.1  
FT Index: 885.2 down 1.0  
FT All Share: 532.2 up 0.01  
Bergsma: 16.278  
Dutch: 101.72 up 0.19  
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average (latest) 1121.79 down 1.21  
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 1178.83 down 48.88  
Hong Kong: Hang Seng Index 1,054.31 up 9.15  
Amsterdam: 180.9 down 0.9  
Sydney: AG Index 747.7 up 5.9  
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index 1982.2 down 8.4  
Brussels: General Index 164.33 up 1.13  
Paris: CAC Index 181.1 up 2.1

## CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE  
Sterling 74.9 up 0.3 (range 74.9-74.9)  
\$1.2225 up 1.2 cents  
DM 3.6950 up 0.02  
FF 11.3350 up 0.06  
Yen 398.50 up 3.0  
Dollar  
Index 140.8 down 0.8  
DM 3.6950 down 0.0220  
NEW YORK LATEST  
Sterling \$1.2225  
Dollar DM 3.6950  
ECU 20.805455  
SDR 20.824438

## INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:  
Bank base rate 10%  
Finance houses base rate 11%  
Discount market loans week fixed 10% - 10%  
3 month interbank 10% - 10%  
Euro-currency rates:  
3 month dollar 10% - 9.5%  
3 month DM 5% - 5.5%  
3 month FF 11% - 10%  
US rates:  
Bank prime rate 12.75 - 12.25  
Fed funds 8%  
Treasury long bond 107 - 107%  
ECAD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period September 5 to October 2, 1984, inclusive: 10.904 per cent.

## GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):  
am \$340.25 pm \$340  
close \$340 - \$340.50 (\$278.50 - 278.50)  
New York (latest): \$339.95  
Kruggerand (per coin): \$350 - \$351.50 (\$288.50 - 287.50)  
Sovereigns (new): \$360 - \$1 (\$250 - 250)  
\*Excludes VAT

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Reeves to head bank

Mr Christopher Reeves, deputy chairman and chief executive of Morgan Grenfell & Co., is to succeed the late Mr William Mackworth-Young as chairman.

Mr Reeves, 48, is at present involved in the plans for the firm to merge with Pender and Boyle, the stockbroker.

Morgan Grenfell & Co is the merchant banking subsidiary of Morgan Grenfell Holdings, where Mr Reeves is a director.

● RIO TINTO-ZINC's Australian subsidiary, CRA, is joining two German companies — Krupp Stahl and Klockner-Werke in a merger of their steelmaking operations.

● COMPUTER AND SYSTEMS Engineering is raising £24m through a one-for-five rights issue at 240p a share. Interim profits rose by 70 per cent to £4.2m for the six months trading to September 30 and the interim dividend goes up from 0.34p to 0.45p.

● PRETAX PROFITS at C. H. Beazer rose by 83 per cent to £11.3m on sales ahead by 86 per cent to £133m for the year to June 30. The dividend rises by 17 per cent to 10.5p.

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## US gas boost for Britoil

Britoil is likely to have to pay Amax, the US mining group, a further \$10m (£8m) for the 50 per cent interest it acquired in Amax's US oil and gas properties a year ago, Jeremy Warner writes from Paris.

Mr Pierre Goussard said yesterday that the joint venture's natural gas find in the Gulf of Mexico is so good that it

will almost certainly trigger this extra on top of the \$83m Britoil has already paid. The Britoil-Amaz company has a 20 per cent stake in the offshore block, Timbalier 200. Mr Goussard said: "We are certain that we have a major gas find on this structure, though I am not at liberty yet to talk about its exact size."

## Stockbroker told not to act for both sides in bid battle

By Philip Robinson

A High Court injunction was issued yesterday preventing Statham Duff Stoop, the stockbroker, from acting for both sides during a takeover battle.

Atlantic Investment Trust sought the injunction after Mr Vasant Advani's Grovebell Group launched a surprise £5.6m bid for Atlantic.

Statham is stockbroker to both. Atlantic's advisers said last night that the injunction was concerned exclusively with what they perceived as a potential conflict of interest. A spokesman for Statham denied that it was stockbroking for Atlantic, whose managing director, Mr Tony Cole, said: "They have been our brokers since 1983 and it's news to us if they're not now."

Grovebell's formal bid announcement also detailed changes in its own board structure. Mr Advani has invited Mr William "John" Bishop on to the board and sold him and an associate a maxi-

mum 22 per cent of the existing shares.

Mr Bishop was sharply criticised by the Takeover Panel and in a Department of Trade report in 1978 for his share dealings during a takeover of Grendon Trust, where he was a director.

The report describes Mr Bishop as "irresponsible" and "devious" when he was a witness during the investigation.

Mr Bishop, age 49, a former director of Scottish Investments and Erskine House Investment Trust, said last night: "I accepted the appointment because I am interested in the growth area of financial services. I don't think my past record will deter people from dealing with Grovebell."

Mr Advani said yesterday: "Mr Bishop has told me that he has been rapped over the knuckles a number of times, but always proved that everything he

did was above board. I'm not condoning his actions, but my overriding consideration must be to secure what is best."

Mr Bishop and his associate of 15 years, Mr Michael Baker-Harber, a marine lawyer, have purchased 4 million Grovebell shares at 15p each from Mr Advani, with the option on a further 4 million.

If the share element of the Atlantic offer is taken up in full and the share option is exercised, Mr Advani and Mr Bishop with Mr Baker-Harber will have 12 per cent each.

Grovebell is offering 17 of its own shares for every two Atlantic shares. With Grovebell's price at 17p, it values Atlantic shares at 144 1/2p. Its market price closed at 129p. Grovebell is offering a 127 1/2p cash alternative.

The sharp rise in the Atlantic share price over the past week, moving from 115p to 123p, prompted the exchange to insist on a statement.

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## STOCK MARKET REPORT

## STC tumbles as Scrimgeour trims profit forecast by £5m

By Derek Pain

Shares of Standard Telephones and Cables, the telecommunications group, slumped to within 10p of their year's low yesterday as Scrimgeour Kemp-Gee, the broker reduced its profit forecasts.

There was heavy selling of the shares, pushing the price down 14p to 266p, as Scrimgeour pulled back its profit projection for this year to £117m and next year to £180m. In each case the revision represents a £5m cut.

The downgrading, although modest, is a further example of the stock market's growing unease over STC's shares. The £411m takeover of ICL, Britain's leading computer group,

Phillips & Drew, the broker, remains optimistic about Exco International, the financial group, after a City lunch this week. Mr John Arden, a P & D analyst, believes this year's profits will be more than £70m (£52.5m and next year's results will top £90m. Exco shares rose 3p to 48p.

was achieved by a share exchange and left many weak holders of STC stock.

There is also the nagging worry that ITT, the big American conglomerate, will soon have to sell about 3 per cent of STC to comply with the Government's requirement that its holding in the merged STC/ICL company should be held at 24 per cent.

Evidence is also accumulating that City analysts are becoming increasingly less impressed by STC's prospects. Sentiment was not helped this month when it became known that STC was not in the running for the British Telecom contract for digital local exchanges.

At one stage this year STC shares were riding at a 372p peak.

Equities had started the day

in line with, seemingly determined to build on Tuesday's 11.7 points advance. But there was little buying follow through. So the FT 30-share index, at one time a seemingly decisive 7.8 points higher at 875.0 points, closed 1 point down at 866.2 points.

It was much the same story with the FT-SE index, which ended 24 points down at 1,125.4 points.

Various factors caused the market's enthusiasm to wane. Although Nacods, the pit deputies' union, eventually called off tomorrow's strike, Mr Arthur Scargill, the NUM president, had already dampened enthusiasm with his uncompromising comments ahead of the meeting with the National Coal Board.

The poor September trade figures were another inhibiting influence. Government stocks enjoyed a firm start, helped by a much stronger performance by sterling against the dollar and lower US interest rates. But gains at one time rearing up to 4p were eliminated in late trading and the market closed with losses of up to 4p.

Imperial Chemical Industries, ahead of today's eagerly awaited third quarter figures, eased 2p to 670p. Trusthouse

The market has become too fearful about the impact the miners' strike is having on Cattle's (Holdings), the Hull-based check trader and retailer. Worries that the long-running dispute will sharply reduce profits have lowered the shares 10p to 21p. But group turnover is apparently up on last year and this year's profits could come out similar to last year's £1.9m.

Forté was a little unsettled by a line of stock on offer and closed 1p lower at 125p.

After their recent remarkable progress, Forté succumbed to profit taking. Renfrew Mackintosh fell 6p to 368p as Mr Basil Collins, chairman of Nabisco's British arm, denied bid intentions.

Harris Queensway, at one time 8p higher at 190p, closed at 184p. Mr Philip Harris, chairman, and his associated interests were rumoured to have sold 2 million shares. Mr Harris said shares, many held by charities with which he is associated, had been sold, but he could not confirm the 2 million figure.

Turner & Newall gained 2p to 94p. Mr John Goldschmidt of Laurie, Milbank, the broker, forecast that the price should reach 130p in the next year.

He expects profits of £21.5m this year, £32m next year and £40m in 1986.

Ocean Transport and Trading, the shipping group, enjoyed an excited session, jumping 1 1/2p to 122p. Rumours abounded that an American shipping line was buying shares. It was suggested that it was stake building ahead of a full bid.

Beers were a little stronger with Bass, the biggest brewing group, again achieving a new high at 408p. It later slipped to 403p.

Belhaven Brewery gained 2p to 34p as a report in *The Times* that the Virani Group was buying a chain of London off-licences was confirmed. Mr Nazmu Virani, who runs the group is chairman of Belhaven and his company has almost 30

bidder for the Australian company Nicholas Kiwi, to counter Reckitt's increased offer.

Nicholas Kiwi said the board would not make a recommendation on Reckitt's revised bid until Consolidated made its intentions known. Consolidated is unlikely to make its reply until next week. Nicholas Kiwi shareholders are due to vote on Consolidated's offer, which received Kiwi board approval, next Wednesday.

The offer document from Nottingham Manufacturing for Johnson Group Cleaners had no effect on Johnson's share price which remained at 432p. Johnson quickly pointed out that the

Expect Epicure Holdings, the construction group created by Mr Reginald Bradley, to pump its interest in the company, which includes a Florida hotel, into a US quoted company. But Epicure profits, due tomorrow, are likely to be below last year's near £1.1m. Epicure shares were unchanged at 32p.

Shares have remained at a substantially higher level than Nottingham's 410p-a-share offer.

The company will be detailing its reasons for rejecting the bid in the next couple of weeks. They will include the lack of commercial logic, as Johnson sees it, in a manufacturing company taking over a service company in the retail market. Nottingham Manufacturing shares fell 2p to 200p.

Property shares were quiet. Arlington Securities has declared its intention of seeking a full listing. Last year it received a £2.9m cash injection through a private placing organized by Morgan Grenfell, the merchant banker, and de Zoete and Bevan, the broker. There are now 30 institutional shareholders.

## COMPANY NEWS

## IN BRIEF

● VAUX BREWERIES has agreed to acquire 92 per cent of the ordinary shares and 74 per cent of the preference shares of John W. Pratt. Vaux has also agreed in principle to acquire the remaining shares on the same terms. Vaux will issue a maximum of 102,600 ordinary shares as initial consideration for the ordinary shares and pay a maximum of £8,600 for the preference.

● LORNE MINING CORPORATION: Nine months to Sept 30. Figures in £'000. Net revenue 146,725 (115,564). Operating loss 6,130 (7,647). Income and mineral resources taxes, credit, 3,260 (charge, 3,500). Net loss 2,870 (4,147) profit. Loss per share 35 cents (50 cents) profit. The board explains that the deterioration in earnings last time to this year's net loss was a result of lower prices for copper and silver. A loss of 932,000 in the third quarter was the result of extraordinary prices for copper.

● SANGER PHOTOGRAPHICS: The interim results for the six months ended on August 31 show profits up by 55 per cent to £402,000, while turnover grew from £11.1m to £12.7m. An interim dividend of 0.75p is to be paid and a final dividend of 1.25p is planned, making 2p.

The board reports that in spite of difficult market conditions, the trading profit rose by 28 per cent and the benefits of the cash raised through the placing resulted in substantial interest savings.

● BELGRAVE HOLDINGS: Half-year to June 30. Figs. in £'000. Turnover 4,377 (4,317). Pretax profit 752 (181). The board will continue to look for profitable opportunities to enlarge the group's range of activities and is optimistic of reinstating ordinary dividends in the near future.

● RAMUS HOLDINGS: Final 3.75p, making 5.25p (5p) for year to July 2. Figs. in £'000. Turnover 23,811 (19,217). Pretax profit 887 (621).

## RECENT ISSUES

Admission Comm. 2p (Oct 11/84) 142.5  
Aluminium 3p (Oct 11/84) 107  
Aldermore A & P 10p (Oct 11/84) 220  
Brit. Bookshops 5p (Oct 11/84) 202  
Checkpoint Europe 2p (Oct 11/84) 84  
Comp. Fin. Serv. 5p (Oct 11/84) 103.5  
Giant 2p (Oct 11/84) 223.5  
Howe's Whaling 2p (Oct 11/84) 346.5  
Huggett Brown 2p (Oct 11/84) 135.5  
Island Finance 10p (Oct 11/84) 196.4  
Jaguar 2p (Oct 11/84) 61  
Kilgore Holdings 2p (Oct 11/84) 148  
Knox 2p (Oct 11/84) 111  
Second Market 10p (Oct 11/84) 144.2  
Suncor International 2p (Oct 11/84) 96  
T & S Stores 5p (Oct 11/84) 106  
Trade Promotions 10p (Oct 11/84) 106  
Wates City of London 2p (Oct 11/84) 106  
Issue price in parentheses a United Securities, by order.

## TEMPUS

## Strong Case for £24m expansion cash call

It is a brave company which asks its shareholders to dig into their pockets to the tune of £24m only six months after it had called on them for £23m but this is exactly what Computer and Systems Engineering (CSE) has done.

However, such is the company's standing in the City that the one-for-five rights issue announced yesterday will cause few eyebrows to be raised and most investors will welcome the chance to increase their stake in the company, particularly at the 240p asking price, 47p below yesterday's close.

Any doubts there might have been were washed away by the impressive interim results which accompanied the rights announcement. Pretax profits increased from £2.5m to £4.2m and estimates for the full year were promptly revised upwards to about £11m.

The figures were flattered by the inclusion of the results from Rixon, the US subsidiary acquired in May, for the full half year and for the comparatives. CSE has adopted merger accounting principles which allow this treatment and also keep good will out of the balance sheet. Rixon contributed £1.4m, a 28 per cent advance in dollar terms, while Britain's £2.8m profits were 90 per cent ahead.

It is this rapid growth which has forced the company to make its cash call. Working capital requirements are running ahead of cash generated by the business and the company estimated that the £24m it raises will be sufficient for at least the next two years.

With a foothold in the important US market established through Rixon, the group is keen to expand its activities there. The traditional CSE products are now being integrated into Rixon and the weakness of sterling offers a big price advantage.

A stronger pound might take some of the edge off the progress overseas but with gross margins up by 3 per cent to 44.5 per cent the outlook remains good. An increased tax charge will depress the earnings per share, but at 287p down 10p the shares still represent very good value.

## Beazer

Most of the numbers this year at Beazer have a satisfying ring. Pretax profits are ahead by 83 per cent; earnings have improved by a fifth and the dividend is up by 17 per cent. In the group's main business, housebuilding, unit sales rose by a quarter to 2,000 homes.

In theory, the share price ought to have fallen after such sparkling figures, on the grounds that it was all discounted anyway, as the spending cycle apparently peaks. Yet the share moved ahead, putting on 8p to 356p.

The group's specialist defence interests have been floated off, to guarantee access to outside capital if necessary, and quasi-independence.

Beazer is plainly planning to use the same technique to capitalize its ancillary engineering interests by injecting Beazer Engineering into Braham Millar.

The group's housebuilding side is still booming, and scheduled sales of 2,500 this year, plus a four-year land bank, point to an attractive combination of hard work and forward planning.

Yet the group still has plans to expand its British coverage, especially in the North of England and Scotland. Hence the lapsed bid for William Leach, where Beazer still holds 17 per cent. A second approach, or an alternative bid elsewhere cannot be ruled out.

But Beazer is keen to scale down its dependence on the

cyclical earnings pattern in housebuilding. MP Kent appeals for this reason, because a successful outcome to the £33m offer takes the group into commercial and retail property.

Endless permutations are possible here, because of Kent's near-30 per cent stake in the construction group, Bath and Portland.

Beazer can keep growing for some time using its clever formula of marrying real asset trading with financial sophistication. An historic price-earnings ratio of 9 is undemanding.

## F J C Lilley

F J C Lilley, the ambitious and highly-rated Glasgow engineering company, shocked the market yesterday with a £2m fall to £4.5m in interim profits. A 10p fall in the share price to 60p measures the scale of disappointed expectations.

Lilley has spent the last few years building up a world engineering business, and has been especially shrewd in the United States buys - American sales are worth up to 40 per cent of turnover. Thus the fall implies that Lilley has over-reached itself: An £800,000 slip into the red on interest payable looks quite ominous.

Lilley acknowledges that it has run into problems in four specific areas: slow lets on property development; start-up delays in Cairo; completion difficulties in Nigeria; and a contracts wrangle in the United States.

However, the group also stresses that the bunching of these problems is an accident of timing. Full, perhaps even excessive, provisions of possibly £2m have been made against the troublesome contracts. An unequivocal statement that the final dividend is protected - sounds like an expression of confidence.

## FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Sterling had a good day on foreign exchange markets yesterday.

The decision by Nacods late in the day to call off their strike and hopes that new talks between the NCB and NUM may settle the pit dispute helped the pound to recover some of its lost ground.

A weak dollar was also

instrumental in underpinning sterling.

At the end of a relatively quiet session the pound finished the day showing a one and a half cent rise against the dollar at \$1.2225, while its trade-weighted index moved forward 0.3 at the final calculation of 74.9, compared with 74.6 on Tuesday.

## STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Marked rates	Marked rates	1 month	3 months
New York	1.2225	0.10-0.20c prem	0.45-0.50c disc
London	1.2225	0.10-0.20c disc	0.45-0.50c prem
Frankfurt	1.2225	0.10-0.20c prem	0.45-0.50c disc
Paris	1.2225	0.10-0.20c disc	0.45-0.50c prem
Geneva	1.2225	0.10-0.20c prem	0.45-0.50c disc
Basel	1.2225	0.10-0.20c disc	0.45-0.50c prem
Brussels	1.2225	0.10-0.20c prem	0.45-0.50c disc
Amsterdam	1.2225	0.10-0.20c disc	0.45-0.50c prem
Stockholm	1.2225	0.10-0.20c prem	0.45-0.50c disc
Copenhagen	1.2225	0.10-0.20c disc	0.45-0.50c prem
Helsinki	1.2225	0.10-0.20c prem	0.45-0.50c disc
Tokyo	1.2225	0.10-0.20c disc	0.45-0.50c prem
Singapore	1.2225	0.10-0.20c prem	0.45-0.50c disc
Bombay	1.2225	0.10-0.20c disc	0.45-0.50c prem
Mumbai	1.2225	0.10-0.20c prem	0.45-0.50c disc
Dubai	1.2225	0.10-0.20c disc	0.45-0.50c prem

Sterling index compared with 1975 was up 0.3 at 74.9 (day's range 74.8-74.9).

## DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Marked rates	Marked rates	1 month	3 months
Ireland	1.0000	1.4387	1.4417
Spain	1.6667	1.6667	1.6667
Switzerland	2.0000	2.0000	2.0000
Australia	2.3000	2.3000	2.3000
Canada	3.1250	3.1250	3.1250
Norway	8.7000	8.7000	8.7000
Denmark	10.0000	10.0000	10.0000
West Germany	2.0000	2.0000	2.0000
Sweden	4.0000	4.0000	4.0000
France	6.5596	6.5596	6.5596
Japan	244.00	244.00	244.00
Belgium	36.3636	36.3636	36.3636
Portugal	200.00	200.00	200.00
Italy	1.3636	1.3636	1.3636
Greece	166.67	166.67	166.67
South Africa	1.5000	1.5000	1.5000

## EURO-DEPOSITS

Rate Support by Barclays Bank Ltd. and others.

## COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY PRICES

Rubber in £'s per metric ton; Coffee, cocoa, sugar in £'s per metric ton; Cassia in £'s per metric ton.

Commodity	Price
Rubber	610.00
Coffee	610.00
Cocoa	610.00
Cassia	610.00
Sugar	610.00
Wheat	610.00
Barley	610.00
Oats	610.00
Rice	610.00
Maize	610.00
Soyabean	610.00
Groundnut	610.00
Mustard	610.00
Linseed	610.00
Castor	610.00
Pepper	610.00
Cardamom	610.00
Vanilla	610.00
Saffron	610.00
Turmeric	610.00
Asafoetida	610.00
Resin	610.00
Gum	610.00
Shellac	610.00
Beeswax	610.00
Stearin	610.00
Tallow	610.00
Wool	610.00
Hides	610.00
Feathers	610.00
Bones	610.00
Antlers	610.00
Hooves	610.00
Claws	610.00
Tails	610.00
Manes	610.00
Whiskers	610.00
Teeth	610.00
Claws	610.00
Tails	610.00
Manes	610.00
Whiskers	610.00
Teeth	610.00

## LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

Official turnover of figures.

Prices in pounds per metric ton.

Silver in ounce per tray ounce.

Gold in ounce per tray ounce.

Platinum in ounce per tray ounce.

Palladium in ounce per tray ounce.

Nickel in ounce per tray ounce.

Copper in ounce per tray ounce.

Aluminium in ounce per tray ounce.

Zinc in ounce per tray ounce.

Lead in ounce per tray ounce.

Tin in ounce per tray ounce.

Antimony in ounce per tray ounce.

Arsenic in ounce per tray ounce.

Bismuth in ounce per tray ounce.

Mercury in ounce per tray ounce.

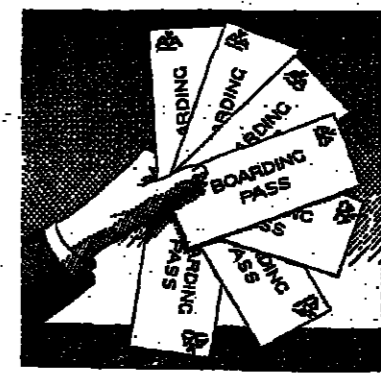
Selenium in ounce per tray ounce.

Tellurium in ounce per tray ounce.

In case you haven't heard the whisper, there's something special in the air. American Airlines.

They can reserve the seat of your choice on any flight to America's South West up to 11 months in advance and hold it until 30 minutes before flight departure.

They also give you all your boarding passes when you first check-in so you won't have to check-in again.



American Airlines  
Something special in the air

... 198 rental locations ... Central Reservations ... instant confirmation ... One Way Rental ... latest Peugeot Talbots ... Central Billing ... delivery and collection ... special rates for companies ...

**PEUGEOT TALBOT RENTAL** (0582) 866177 for facts & figures.

GIVE US A CALL - IT COULD MEAN A GREAT DEAL

# THE TIMES Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won tonight on a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Year gain or loss
1	ELECTRICALS	
2	Int Signal & Control	
3	MIK Elec	
4	Arlec Elec	
5	Electricals	
6	Micro Focus	
7	Phonix	
8	Cray Elec	
9	Grosvener	
10	Euromem	
11	BOC	
12	Ash & Lacey	
13	BTR	
14	Black (Peter)	
15	Brumby (Mort)	
16	AGB Research	
17	Chronics Int	
18	Standard (SW)	
19	DRFC	
20	Dalton	
21	Peacocks	
22	Briton	
23	Mucklow (A&L)	
24	Estates Prop	
25	Bozer (CHI)	
26	Crysalis City	
27	Chesford	
28	Kent (MP)	
29	Hammerston 'A'	
30	Lee Shop Prop	
31	BANKS DISCOUNT HP	
32	King & Shewan	
33	Union	
34	Nat West	
35	Brown Shipley	
36	Bank of Ireland	
37	Hill Samuel	
38	Mercery Soc	
39	Schroder	
40	Gerrard Nat	

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £40,000 in Saturday's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

## BRITISH FUNDS

1984 High Low Stock Price Ch'ge Ytd % P/E

SHORTS

MEDIUMS

LONGS

BREWERIES

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

ELECTRICALS

CINEMAS AND TV

DRAPERY AND STORES

HOTELS AND CATERERS

INDUSTRIALS A-D

FINANCE AND LAND

FOODS

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

BUILDING AND ROADS

PROPERTY

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'G

INSURANCE

LEISURE

MINING

SHIPPING

SHOES AND LEATHER

TEXTILES

MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT

NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHERS

TOBACCOS

OVERSEAS TRADERS

PROPERTY

SHIPPING

SHOES AND LEATHER

TEXTILES

MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT

NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHERS

TOBACCOS

OVERSEAS TRADERS

PROPERTY

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TEXTILES

MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT

NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHERS

TOBACCOS

OVERSEAS TRADERS

PROPERTY

SHIPPING

SHOES AND LEATHER

TEXTILES

## STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

# Weak at the close

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Oct 15. Dealings End, Oct 26. \$ Contango Day, Oct 29. Settlement Day, Nov 5. \$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

1984 High Low Company Price Ch'ge Ytd % P/E	1984 High Low Company Price Ch'ge Ytd % P/E
1984 High Low Company Price Ch'ge Ytd % P/E	1984 High Low Company Price Ch'ge Ytd % P/E

## BUILDING AND ROADS

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## FINANCE AND LAND

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COMPANY NEWS  
IN BRIEF

**SAMUEL PROPERTIES:** Final 4p making 5.5p (5.2p) for the year to June 30. (Figures in £000). Turnover 18,166 (20,077). Operating profit 3,774 (4,084). Share of loss of associates 658 (profit 190). Profit before tax 3,116 (4,274). Tax 773 (1,110). Minorities 16 (24). Extraordinary credits 1,071 (222). Earnings per share 8.18p (10.85p). Shares 151 down 1.

**WALTER RUNCIMAN:** For half-year to June 30. Interim dividend 2.5p (same), payable on January 4. (Figures in £000). Turnover 29,055 (32,770). Gross profit 7,655 (7,992). Operating profit 551 (1,156). Pretax loss 107 (profit 701). After tax loss 58 (profit 336). Minorities loss 129 (loss 122).

**S. SHORES:** Results for six months to July 28. (Figures in £000). Turnover 2,949 (2,947). Tax 1,517 (1,495).

**WOODCHESTER INVESTMENTS:** Half-year to September 30. 2.5p (2p). The company intends in lieu of a final. A second interim dividend 1.5p per share (2nd interim dividend 1.5p) (Figures in £000). Gross revenue 1,269 (794). Pretax profit 332 (179). After finance costs nil (28). Tax 23 (14). Extraordinary debit 57 (credit 80). Earnings per share 8.4p (7p) pre-extraordinary items shares 146 up 3.

**RICHARDSON WES- TART:** No dividend for half year to June 30. (Figures in £000). Turnover 11,121 (31,333). Trading loss 91 (profit 325). Central costs 411 (347). Interest payable 335 (279). Pretax loss 706 (341). Shares 20p down 2p.

**COMBEN GROUP:** Six months to June 30. No interim. (Figures in £000). Group turnover 47,851 (31,618). Pretax profit 2,511 (2,006). Tax 160 (420). Earnings per share 4.07p (4.49p).

**ENGLISH NATIONAL INVESTMENT CO:** Interim dividend 4.65p (4.4p). Per preferred ordinary dividend 2.2p (1.95p). Per deferred ordinary for six months to September 30. Dividends and interest received £138,646 (£125,147). Other income £32,068 (£30,811). Making gross income £170,714 (£155,958). Interest charges and expenses £38,703 (£32,266). Pretax profit £132,011 (£122,692).

**J. H. FENNER:** Has acquired from the Arbee Corp. of Mannheim, Pennsylvania, the assets of its Mannheim manufacturing and belting division for \$2.5m (£2m).

**SPECTRUM GROUP:** Year to June 30. Had Spectrum's ord. shares been publicly held throughout the year, it would have been the director's intention to recommend a total dividend of 2p a share. (Figures in £000). Turnover 29,795 (12,891). Pretax profit 1,835 (307).

**BICC:** Has reached an agreement for Power Technologies to buy BICC's 58.13 per cent stake in its S. African offshoot, Scottish Cables, for £12.8m (£6m).

**BRITISH RAYOPHANE:** Half-year to June 30. Figures in £000. Turnover 29,580 (26,885). Pretax profit 725 (1,005). Profits for the second half are expected to exceed the first half.

# Telecom buys huge holdings of land and buildings

By Judith Huntley

## An unlikely developer has been hard at work in the past year

British Telecom could well turn out to be one of Britain's largest property companies with a portfolio estimated to be worth more than £1 billion. This would make it a rival in size, if not quality, to the likes of Hammerson and MEPC.

Information about BT's property holdings is hard to come by. Indeed, it is doubtful whether BT itself knows exactly how much property it owns but it does say that property accounts for 15 per cent of its assets.

These had a net book value of £7.14 billion in last year's accounts, based on an internal valuation.

It is difficult to put a figure on its property assets, many of which are operational land and buildings. BT has yet to say whether there will be an external valuation once the company is floated. And it seems unlikely that BT's initial prospectus, due out tomorrow, will shed much light on the matter.

While it must be said that BT's business is not that of property development and investment, it is taking the subject seriously and the property market has been taking note of BT's heightened activity in the last year. The company is in the process of re-structuring its regional set up, which has generated a great demand for buildings.

It is the responsibility of BT's new director of property management, Mr Richard Luff, to oversee all the property requirements of the company and this includes buying and selling where appropriate.

Mr Luff is well qualified for the task. He was formerly chief

surveyor for the Corporation of the City of London and is a past president of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

Despite his career in the public sector, he is believed to be keen to use private firms of chartered surveyors to carry out BT's instructions rather than the Property Services Agency, which usually carries out such work for government departments. If such a policy is adopted, it will be in line with Government thinking.

Over the last year or so, BT has taken or announced plans for developing almost 600,000 sq ft of industrial and office space. The biggest scheme mooted by BT was a £25m, 320,000 sq ft building at Campbell Park, Milton Keynes, in Buckinghamshire. This would have represented a huge investment by BT and a shot in the arm for the new town, but it appears that uncertainty over staffing needs prevented the scheme going ahead.

But as Healey & Baker, the chartered surveyors, points out in its look at the west of London high technology market, BT alone accounted for 4 per cent of the deals done in the last year.

The most recent letting to BT is the 23,775 sq ft £4m, Broadway House at Bromley, Kent, developed by Rush & Tompkins' property division. BT is paying £230,000 a year for the building with retail space on the ground floor being used as a telephone shop. This is common practice for BT which has a growing number of shops selling its range of telephones.

BT has 35,000 sq ft in Churchill House, Red Lion Square, in Holborn, for which it is paying the developer, Stock Conversion £425,000 a year.

In the provinces, BT is the most likely tenant for MacKay Securities' 30,000 sq ft office block in Greyfriars Road, Reading, Berkshire. The biggest letting in Leeds for some considerable time was also due



Marble arches: the reception hall of the newly-restored 100 Piccadilly

## £1.45m a year rent sought for Piccadilly offices

London & Leeds Investments, the property division of the Ladbroke Group, is asking no less than £1.45m a year in rent for its 60,000 sq ft blend of old and new office space at 100 Piccadilly in London's West End. The original building opposite Green Park has been restored in lavish style courtesy of Mr David Hicks and a modern air-conditioned office block built at the rear, complete with atrium.

London & Leeds bought the building four years ago when it

was still used as a club. The company says it spent £2m on the finishes but will not reveal how much the overall development cost.

London & Leeds intends to sell the scheme and is gradually completing its other London office projects. The emphasis in future will be on developing luxury apartments and shopping schemes rather than the office market. Letting agents for 100 Piccadilly are Richard Ellis, Michael Laurie & Partners and D. E. & J. Levy.

to BT. It took 125,000 sq ft in the city.

The Merseyside Development Corporation and the developer Arrowcroft were hoping to get BT as a tenant for the restored Albert Dock complex in Liverpool but BT eventually took 70,000 sq ft in Imperial Buildings in the city centre developed by Sun Life Assurance and Ulster Properties.

BT's flagship is the impressive new London headquarters built for it close to St Paul's Cathedral in the City. As well as accommodating its central London staff, the building will no doubt impress prospective investors.

The rest of the property portfolio may not be as impressive but it could well contribute to BT's profits if handled in the right way. The first set of accounts from the privatized BT should throw some light on the matter.

## Isle of Dogs leads docklands revival

Attempts to regenerate London's dockland are showing most signs of success in the Isle of Dogs enterprise zone. The Militech Centre, a 13,170 sq ft office and industrial development, has been sold for £1m. Paul Sykes Developments of Leeds bought the scheme, built on a one-acre site, from College Hill Securities which developed the building with Geoffrey Osborn. The centre has yet to find a tenant. The asking rent through agents Henry Butcher and St Quintin is £90,000 a year for the 25-year lease with five-yearly reviews.

Henry Butcher has sold the No 1 Olsen Shed, also in the enterprise zone to R. Maskell, which recently bought the House of Holland group. Maskell has bought the shed, which will be turned into 120,000 sq ft of offices and warehousing and on a 5.3 acre site, from the London Docklands Development Corporation which has its headquarters next door. The whole development will cost £2.25m to build.

The strength of the auction market, which has been a growing force over the last two years, can be seen from the sale of a rare City of London freehold for £1.21m this week. Allsop & Co, on behalf of a development company, has sold six small properties at Carter Lane, Cobbs Court and 33 Ludgate Hill to another developer. The leases on the buildings have six-monthly break clauses for redevelopment.

The Ludgate Hill area of the City, once the poor relation, is now becoming a popular location for tenants and investors alike. Eagle Star Properties is developing offices adjacent to the auctioned site and Land Securities is believed to have let part of its refurbishment at 50 Ludgate Hill to Deloitte, Haskins & Sons, the accountant.

Ford Camber, a joint company formed by Watney Combe Reid, Lazard Brothers and Lysander Investments wants permission for a £50m, 327,000 sq ft office on the site, but a rival application by Greycoat City Offices has been submitted for 193,000 sq ft of offices with 31,000 sq ft of

shops. The site is owned by the City of London Corporation and Ford Camber.

The future of the site next to the Riverside Studios in Hammersmith, West London, looks more assured. Hammersmith & Fulham council has appointed Darcon Properties, the Romford private development company which is part of the Webb International Group, to build a £12m office, industrial and residential scheme on the site. The Heron Corporation's plans for a £21m redevelopment came to nothing. Darcon Properties intends funding the scheme internally but will be looking for an institutional partner or will sell on. The developer has a £20m facility with the US National Westminster Bank secured on its US properties which it will use for the Hammersmith project.

The Rank Organisation, which sold the British and Irish property assets of Rank City Wall last week to British Land for £49m, is to sell its overseas properties. Rank says that talks are under way with a potential buyer for the £70m of property the company owns in Canada and Belgium. Rank says that British Land is not in the market for the overseas portfolio.

The funds are back into property investment with institutional investment at its highest since 1982. The second quarter saw investment in property rise to £435m from a five-year low at the beginning of the year of only £272m. This quarter's figure, says Knight Frank & Rutley, the chartered surveyors, is the highest since the record £494m invested in the last quarter of 1982 and in line with the 1982/3 average.

The insurance companies put £219m into property with pension funds investing £167m, unit trusts at £14m and £35m coming from the building societies. Pension fund investment was down but insurance companies are back in line with 1982/83 levels. The unit trust figure was the best for two years. The institutions put £1.35 billion in to gilts and £860m in British equities. There has been a disinvestment from overseas equities, the first since 1976, with the institutions selling £748m worth.

## APPOINTMENTS

### Three move up at the Britannia

Britannia Building Society: from January 1, Mr Michael Shaw, chief general manager, will take over the duties of the retiring managing director, Mr Norman Cowburn, but retain his present title. Mr Roy Griffiths, deputy general manager responsible for development, will become general manager, with special responsibility for business development, branch offices and mortgage policy; and Mr Kenneth Heywood will become general manager responsible for administration.

STC: Mr Duncan Lewis has been appointed director, business intelligence and planning.

Goia (UK): Mr Eric Carter has become a non-executive director.

Davy McKee (Poole): Mr R. J. Tazzyman will become managing director at the end of the year, succeeding Mr Peter Jackson. Mr Tazzyman is at present commercial and financial director.

Ellerman City Liners: Mr Michael Parker has joined the company as sales and marketing director.

Private Patients Plan: Mr Richard Blackland has become a director.

Daniel C. Griffith: Dr Andrew Barber has been appointed chief executive.

TDS circuits: Mr Stephen Faby has become operations director.

Thorn EMI Ferguson: Dr H. J. Maymin becomes chairman from January, in succession to Mr R. E. Norman, who will continue to be a non-executive director of Ferguson and president of JET (Holdings) BV.

Wace Group: Mr John Clegg has been made managing director.

Aitken Hume Funds (Management): Mr Paul Saunders has joined the board as unit trust marketing director following Mr Geoffrey Hyde's appointment to the board of Aitken Hume International, where he will be responsible for overall marketing of the group's products and services.

C. Czarnikow: Mr A. P. Schenk, who will be retiring as chairman from the end of this year, will be succeeded by Mr M. D. Chataway. Mr John Thomson and Mr John de Havilland are to become non-executive directors of both Czarnikow Holdings and C. Czarnikow.

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## RACING

## Efisio's formidable finish should prove decisive

Young Runaway missed last week's Dewhurst Stakes at Newmarket to wait for today's apparently easier Horris Hill Stakes at Newbury. And, after his second to the brilliant filly, Oh So Sharp, in the Solario Stakes at Sandown Park, followed by an authoritative victory over Sharp Champagne Stakes at Doncaster.

Guy Harwood's colt will be at short odds for today's test over an extended seven furlongs.

However, impressive though he was at Doncaster, those behind him that day have since shown themselves to be rather ordinary. So, if you add to this the fact that Harwood's team have not exactly been carrying all before them recently, it may pay to take a chance with Efisio, a colt whose own stable, that of John Dunlop, is seeing out the season in almost invincible form.

Efisio is unbeaten in three runs and although he makes a considerable step up in class today he could well be equal to it. His most impressive success came in his last outing when the son of Formidable showed remarkable acceleration to cut down Tyrolite in a well-contested six-furlong nursery at Ascot.

Efisio was carrying second top weight that day and

the way he was pulling away from the rest at the finish suggested that today's extra distance should not trouble him.

A line through Our Jock, who finished sixth to Efisio at Ascot, suggests that there should be little between Dunlop's horse and another of today's runners, Ticky Bender, who will be ridden by Lester Pigott. Ticky Bender beat Our Jock by just a short head at Newmarket on Saturday, but was giving him 11lb more than Efisio did, so clearly he will be a dangerous rival.

Assemblyman, who beat Grayfoot in a decent race at Doncaster, and Vertigo, who will be wearing blinkers for the first time, also cannot be ruled out of what should prove a close and fascinating contest.

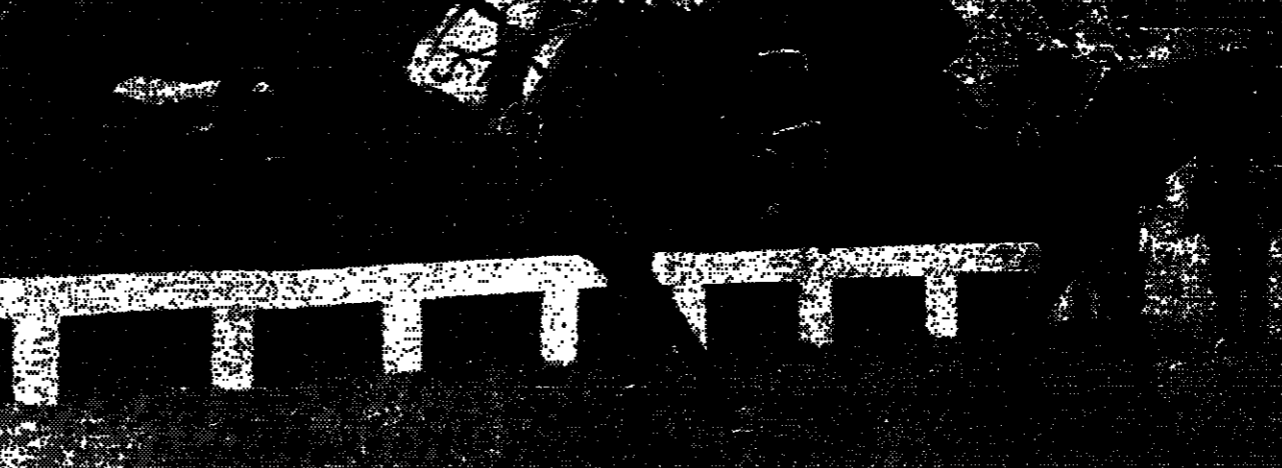
Willie Carson, who rides Efisio, could also take the Rochford Thompson Newbury Stakes on Royal Pot. Dick Hern's filly finished sixth in today's almost certain favourite, Tundra Goose, when that filly won at Newmarket on her debut earlier this month. However, Royal Pot is now 7lb better off and a man as shrewd as Hern would not bother taking the winner on again unless he had good reason to believe his filly could reverse the placings.

Carson will also be the choice of many to win the Great Western Stakes on the Queen's Rough Stones, who made up for a lapse at York when beating the older Cheka in style at Haydock. However, preference is for Rostova, who, in receipt of 8lb, is napped to win this nice prize for Frank Dunn.

Rostova was out of her depth in the Princess Royal Stakes at Ascot, although she was far from disgraced in finishing seventh to One Way Street. Before that she has finished second to Kingsway - who has won again since - at Newmarket and had been an impressive winner from another of today's runners, Vital Boy (who is only 2lb better off) over slightly further than today's trip.

In the other competitive handicap on this afternoon's card, the five-furlong Cape Dried Fruit Trophy, Amigo Loco, who followed a York victory with a good fourth to Lucky Dutch at Newmarket, is taken to defy top weight at the expense of the easy Ascot winner, Deputy Head.

The best bet at Redcar could be Gift Star (3.45) trained by Paul Kelleway and the mount of his daughter, Gay, ridden by Gay's sister, Sarah. Gift Star rounded Ruff's Luck at Chesham on Monday.



Freight Forwarder (left) takes the last on the way to winning Cheltenham's Lydney Novices Chase (Photograph: Chris Cole)

## Half Free may return for Mackeson Gold Cup

Half Free, brilliant winner of the Longley Handicap Chase at Cheltenham yesterday was scoring for the third time over the two and a half mile course. He may return to the Mackeson Gold Cup.

The champion jockey found Freight Forwarder a much more cooperative mount in the Lydney Novices Chase. Although this 10-year-old has had little experience of schooling over fences, Francoeur soon had him jumping well and after delaying his effort until crossing the last, he forged four lengths clear of Our Fan on the flat.

Alan Spence, the winning owner, said: "Freight Forwarder has now won 20 races over jumps plus one on the flat. He's been twice in the space of two years and spent a long time convalescing with former jockey Dennis McCarthy."

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Handicap Chase by five lengths from 'Who's Free' at Hesham yesterday. He has been trying to get Captain Parkhill qualified for the season's season, the owner, Brian McLean, the owner, from Marpleth, McLean, a former member of the British showjumping team, has been training five seasons.

After Hand Over had won the Maiden Handicap, Mrs. McLean, the trainer, said that Wayward Lad would reappear at Wincanton next week and Brown's Gazette at Huntingdon on Saturday.

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## GOLF

## Three-shot advantage for Miss Burton

From Lewins Meir  
La Manga

Maxine Burton, of Britain, the winner of a WPGA event in 1980 but currently thirty-sixth in the money list, yesterday surfaced with a 70 - four under par - to take the halfway lead in the Spanish open tournament. With her tally of 143, Miss Burton is three shots ahead of Karin Munding, of Canada, and the American Beth Booser, and four shots clear of Dale Reid, the Scot who has already made certain of winning this year's Order of Merit.

The only indication Miss Burton had that she was going to do rather better than usual the week was a "funny feeling" before she set out on Tuesday.

Her old confidence returned, and by yesterday she was thinking positively from the start. She held an impossible 70-foot putt from the back of the second green to go out under par and, out in 36 against the card of 37, collected three more birdies on the inward nine, with some more impressive than for down the back-ridden 18th.

Miss Burton, aged 27, has won less than £2,000 this season and spoke yesterday of the strain of playing tournament golf "when you own money."

Miss Munding, who was also round in 70 yesterday, came as a pleasant surprise. She hit the ball the proverbial mile and, though she thought she was doing well, she said she meant what she said when she announced that it is her intention to be the best golfer in the world.

Other prominent players competing for the 20m yen (some £39,000) first prize in the tournament is the American, Amy Alcock, who is best called the World Cup Champion, starting here today.

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## NEWBURY

Television (BBC 1, 3.30, BBC2 4.0)

GOING: heavy

Draw: no advantage

Totals: Double 3.0, 4.0, Treble 2.30, 3.30, 4.30

2.0 READING MAIDEN STAKES (3-y-o-c & g; £1,847; 1m 20) (18 runners)

1-000 BENTY HEATH (M. J. Johnson) 3  
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## CRICKET: PAKISTAN CONTAIN INDIA AT START OF SECOND TEST

## Recalled Qadir quick to make his presence felt

Faisalabad (AFP) - Despite a confident start by the opening batsmen, Sunil Gavaskar and Anshuman Gaekwad, the Indian touring party were restricted to 216 for four here yesterday on the opening day of the second match of the three test series against Pakistan.

The specialist leg spinner, Abdul Qadir, who missed the drawn first Test because of a dispute with the Pakistan selectors, took the first two wickets, and contained the Indian batsmen.

Gavaskar played a very aggressive innings and was the day's top scorer, hitting 74 runs off 166 balls with the help of 10 boundaries. The out-of-form Sandeep Patil, formerly India's most effective batsman, regained some of his flair and scored an unbeaten 42.

Gavaskar, the captain, and Mohinder Amarnath were out after scoring 35 and 37 runs respectively. Since the wicket is not helping the bowlers, the Indians are expected to enhance their score.

Gavaskar won the toss and chose to bat first on a wicket which is known for good scoring. Gavaskar and Gaekwad shaped up well and punished every delivery that came short or loose, putting on 88 before being separated 20 minutes before lunch, when Gavaskar failed to read Qadir's spin.

The ball popped up in front of the record-breaking Indian batsman and Qasim Omar, fielding close in, held a brilliant catch.

By then, Gaekwad had completed his half-century, studded with eight forceful hits to the rope. Dilip Vengsarkar, joining him, was out cheaply for 10, when he was bowled by Qadir soon after lunch.

The medium pace bowler, Manzoor Ishaq, who yesterday became the 101st Pakistani to



Amarnath: fell on his wicket

win a Test cap, took the precious wicket of Gaekwad, who offered a return catch for 74.

The touring side were then 148 for three. Amarnath and Patil pushed the score to 166 at tea without further loss, though the run rate dropped after the three wickets fell, and the visitors added only 69 runs between lunch and tea.

Just after tea India suffered a second setback, when they lost the hero of Lahore, Amarnath, who, while hitting a bouncer from Azeem Hafeez, went sprawling and broke his wicket.

Amarnath, who was out for 148, was hit by a bouncer from Azeem Hafeez, who was out for 148.

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## West Indies with time to entertain sunbathers

Adelaide (Reuters) - The West Indians survived an early setback in their innings before gaining a seven-wicket win in a one-day, limited overs match against a South Australian Country XI in Lorton, north-east of here, yesterday.

Set 166 to win, the West Indians posted the target for the loss of three wickets. To the delight of the 1,000 spectators basking in the warm sunshine, they continued batting, finishing on 230 for five after 40.5 overs.

The West Indians, who had needed the Country side, to 165 for eight in the allotted 50 overs, lost their openers, Greenidge and Haynes, for 37. But Richardson, who remained unbeaten on 87, and Gomes (42) added 78 runs for the third wicket.

Earlier the Country XI batsmen had struggled, despite the West Indians' leisurely approach. There was, however, a spirited partnership for the eighth wicket, McCallum and Penn putting on 86.

South Australian Country XI  
A. Greenidge 146 wickets 4  
B. Haynes 37 wickets 10  
C. Richardson 87 wickets 10  
D. Gomes 42 wickets 10  
E. Penn 86 wickets 10  
F. McCallum 86 wickets 10  
G. Richardson 87 wickets 10  
H. Penn 86 wickets 10  
I. Gomes 42 wickets 10  
J. Greenidge 146 wickets 4

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For the general manager of this exclusive London hotel. You'll have your own office, superb surroundings and first class meals.

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Heavily involved at the centre of activities the wide variety of duties will require poise, personality and confidence combined with the ability to deal with day to day problems in the M.D.'s absence. With excellent secretarial qualifications and an appreciation of international affairs, you will require total competence in all the normal secretarial duties, preferably have a knowledge of one or more foreign languages and be free to travel within the U.K.

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The Group Supervisor is responsible for maintaining an effective executive secretarial and administrative service for the head office Accounting & Finance function. Undertaking personally a share of the overall department word processing/secretarial workload, the supervisor will be responsible for establishing priorities and allocating work for a group of four staff.

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Please telephone P. J. Johnston, Adviser Employee Relations on 01-828 9777 ext. 2328 for an application form, or write with details of age, education, experience and present salary to Mobil Oil Company Ltd., 54-60 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6QB.

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to Managing Director. Small private group in travel, trading and forwarding requires PA/Sec to MD to work from small head office in Holland Park. Qualifications include good shorthand/typing, abundant administrative competence and some interest in marketing. Hours very flexible and short week initially, probably desirable. Benefits to include good basic salary, bonus and discount travel. A sense of humour would probably help.

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### SECRETARY to

Director of National Company at modern West End Headquarters

Good shorthand and typing are essential, min 100 wpm, with quality and accuracy more important than speed. Experience in operation of office machinery is desirable. Salary of £5,985 is reviewed annually, and there are rail travel benefits for business and pleasure.

If you are over 16, type out an application with full details to Sir Elwyn Evans at:

**British Transport Advertising Limited**  
77 Newman Street, London W1A 1DX  
(Tel: 01-636 7722)

### WINTER FASHIONS £7,000

No shorthand needed when you join the well-known company of the late fashion designer. Secretary at Director level. Use your initiative to the full as you have your own projects from start to finish. Excellent benefits and a very good salary. 55 wpm typing ability needed.

01-236 3712 City  
01-499 8070 West End  
**Elizabeth Hunt**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

### £10,000 + KENTISH TOWN

Top P.A. exec. sec. aged 25+ needed to Organise Sales Director of this thriving busy company. You will need good sec. skills and ability to work on own initiative. Car parking facilities and close to station.

Tel: PETER REGIS on 485 5600 NO AGENCIES

### ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATION

Prestige company assisting the administrator with all internal admin for company employing 500 people in London. Varied, interesting position, typing essential. Excellent go benefits. Please call Guy Stockton, 01-734 8488 Stockton Associates Rec Cons.

### SENIOR SECRETARY (Bank)

UP TO £11,000-MORE! An excellent opportunity for a top right senior professional secretarial role in the City bank working for the general affairs manager and the management team you will need top level secretarial skills and charm and be able to cope in a pressured environment. Fastest growing bank in the City. Excellent go benefits. Please call Sylvia Horner on 236 042/043 (AMACUS Rec Cons)

## Public Appointments

### Management Consultancy In the Public Sector

**Challenge and Variety Up to £22,000**

Peat Marwick's public sector consultancy practice is continuing to expand. We are now looking for further first class consultants.

You could expect a range of work in central government departments, local authorities, health authorities and all parts of the public sector. You would have an enquiring analytical mind and be fond of problem solving. You will also need to be able to communicate your ideas well face to face and on paper. Technical experience in one or two of the following areas would also be required:

- ☐ implementing computer projects,
- ☐ financial analysis and investment appraisal.

☐ value for money studies,  
☐ organisation reviews.

We are looking for graduates preferably with either an accountancy qualification or an MBA, aged between 26 and 35.

We have vacancies in London or the North West. An attractive benefits package includes a car.

Please apply, in confidence, to John Fielden, Partner, Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co., Management Consultants, 1 Puddle Dock, Blackfriars, London EC4V 3PD.

**PEAT MARWICK**

### THE ROYAL SOCIETY ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Applications are invited for two posts as administrative Assistants in the salary scale £7,066 by six steps to £8,716 per annum (including London Allowance), subject to review. Applicants should be between 22 and 27 years of age and have a degree or equivalent qualification in science, mathematics or engineering; additionally some computing experience is required for position A (see below). Duties for the two positions are as follows:-

**POSITION A:** to develop an information system for studies of science policy and to help manage and develop the Society's computing services to meet current and future needs in word and data processing. The society has an ATV Jacquard J300 computer providing a broad range of office and business facilities.

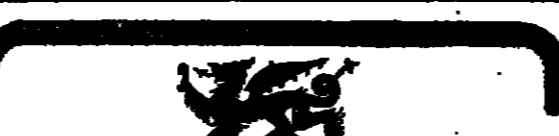
**POSITION B:** to provide administrative support for a number of British National Committees responsible for UK involvement in various international scientific unions and committees.

Applications, with the names of two referees, should be made by 16 November 1984 to:

**The Executive Secretary (ref. CERV)**  
**The Royal Society**  
6 Carlton House Terrace, London, SW1Y 5AG  
Further information is available on request.

### Other Appointments

Also on pages 29, 32 and 33



The United Nations has designated 1985 as International Year for Youth to highlight the needs and aspirations of young people. The Children's Society propose to establish this important project as part of its contribution to this Year.

**'THE WALES CENTRE FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE' CAERPHILLY, MID GLAMORGAN**

### DIRECTOR SOCIAL WORK CONSULTANT

Salaries for both posts will reflect the importance of the project. Car provided.

The aim of this new Centre is to reduce substantially the number of young offenders who require Care of Custody sentences in Wales. This will be pursued with support from an Advisory Committee composed of representatives from the statutory agencies and the Wales Intermediate Treatment Forum. Methods used to achieve this aim will vary, dependent upon the skills of the Director and Consultant, but must include the provision of a specialist training / advice consultancy for practitioners and policy makers and should stimulate community based alternatives to care and custody.

It is intended that the Centre will monitor developments, trends, statistics and good practice across the country and provide information to assist with planning and projections.

This Centre is launched, following 12 months' discussion and consultation with agencies and individuals already involved in work with young offenders in Wales, and is an attempt to respond to their hopes, aspirations and advice. Although the facilities of the project will be available to all agencies in Wales, it does complement an increasing number of intermediate Treatment projects developed by The Children's Society in partnership with Local Authorities.

Applications for the post of Director and Social Work Consultant are now invited. Candidates must be able to demonstrate that they can communicate effectively with all levels of staff in agencies concerned with young offenders, must have relevant qualifications and considerable experience of work in the juvenile justice system. Knowledge of recent developments in practice, policy issues and law is essential and experience of management and/or research within juvenile justice would be beneficial. Welsh-speaking candidates particularly welcome.

The Centre will be based in the offices of the Wales Council for Voluntary Action at Llys Ior, Caerphilly.

Applicants may be considered for both posts and informal enquiries and application forms from: John Jones, Principal Officer (Community Initiatives), Church of England Diocese of Swansea & Gwent, A.M.F. House, Whithy Road, Bristol BS4 4 QF. Tel. (0272) 773701. Closing date: 5th November, 1984. Interviews for the Director will be held on 15th November, 1984.

### The Children's Society

#### TRANSFER BOOKS

CANADIAN PACIFIC LIMITED  
CANADIAN PACIFIC  
PERFECTUM CONSULTANTS  
PERFECTUM CONSULTANTS  
NEW BRUNSWICK STATION  
CALGARY & SOUTHERN RAILWAY  
COMPANY  
4th FLOOR STOCK  
In preparation for the project of the Society's interest in the January 1985 on the above books, the transfer books will be closed at 3.30 p.m. on November 30 1984 and will be reopened on January 1 1985.  
W. E. REEVE  
Deputy Secretary  
90 Finsbury Square  
London EC2A 1AD  
October 25 1984

#### COMPANY MEETING NOTICES

THE SHIPWRECKED FISHERMEN AND MARINERS ROYAL BENEFIT SOCIETY  
The one hundred and forty-fifth annual general meeting of the Society will be held at the Grosvenor Hotel, Grosvenor Road, London, W1A 3AB, on Wednesday, November 21st at 11.30 a.m. The agenda of business is as follows:  
1. To receive the report of the Chairman.  
2. To receive the report of the Treasurer.  
3. To receive the report of the Secretary.  
4. To receive the report of the Committee.  
5. To receive the report of the Auditors.  
6. To receive the report of the Management Committee.  
7. To receive the report of the Finance Committee.  
8. To receive the report of the Social Committee.  
9. To receive the report of the Publicity Committee.  
10. To receive the report of the Welfare Committee.  
11. To receive the report of the Training Committee.  
12. To receive the report of the Research Committee.  
13. To receive the report of the Publications Committee.  
14. To receive the report of the Honorary Treasurer.  
15. To receive the report of the Honorary Secretary.  
16. To receive the report of the Honorary Chairman.  
17. To receive the report of the Honorary Members.  
18. To receive the report of the Honorary Trustees.  
19. To receive the report of the Honorary Officers.  
20. To receive the report of the Honorary Secretaries.  
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97. To receive the report of the Honorary Officers.  
98. To receive the report of the Honorary Secretaries.  
99. To receive the report of the Honorary Treasurers.  
100. To receive the report of the Honorary Chairmen.

### CHRISTIAN AID seeks five Regional Co-ordinators

each to be based in one of the following English regions: North West; North East; Midlands; South West; London and South East.

Candidates - men or women - must have clear commitment to the Christian faith and to issues of poverty and oppression. Duties require communication and pastoral abilities and understanding of world development matters. In addition to leading and administering a regional team, each Co-ordinator will be Area Secretary for a small part of the region, so some experience of working with local church and community groups is needed.

Current driving licence necessary.

Closing date for completed applications 21 November, 1984.

Salary £10,000 p.a.

Write for details and application form, stating preference for one of named regions, to:

Head of Community Educational Department, Christian Aid, London SW9 8BH.

### HEAD OF POLICY AND RESEARCH

JNC Range £18,891 - £20,781

Applications are invited for this newly created post from experienced and enthusiastic professionals. The successful applicant will be directly responsible to the Leader of Council, the Chief Executive and senior members of the Policy and Resources Committee.

The main areas of responsibility will be concerned with the transition of agreed Council policy objectives into co-ordinated programmes and plans; to monitor and re-evaluate the programmes; and to undertake in-depth research projects as directed by the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive.

This demanding position will require the highest level of administrative and organising ability. Education to degree level is essential and the possession of a professional qualification would be an advantage. Experience of policy interpretation, implementation, co-ordination and research at a high level is required, as is a good working relationship with senior officers and members of the Council.

Relocation expenses are payable in certain cases and assistance with temporary housing will be considered. The post carries an essential car allowance.

Write for applications for the above post, including S.A.E. to the Personnel Department, NORTH TYNSIDE METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL, 7 Northumberland Square, PO Box 1, North Shields NE26 1QQ. Closing date: 12th November 1984.

**North Tyneside**

**UNIVERSITY OF LONDON GOLDSMITHS' COLLEGE**

Executive Officer (College Services)

Applications are invited for the post of Executive Officer in the office of the Superintendent of College Services.

The duties include responsibility for a wide range of college services, including room bookings, information and provision of facilities.

Extensive administrative experience and the ability to deal with a wide range of staff and students. Ability to operate a computer keyboard an advantage.

Salary on a scale £7,707 to £15,000 with increments of £2,817 per annum inclusive.

Write for further details to the Personnel Officer, University of London, Goldsmiths' College, New Cross, London SE14 6NW. Closing date for receipt of applications 9th November 1984.

### EDINBURGH INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

requires a SECRETARY/ASSISTANT

Salary min. £8,000 p.a.

The post is based at the London office of the Festival Society and the holder is responsible to the Festival Director.

Excellent secretarial and office skills, including typing and shorthand are required.



# General Appointments

## CJA

**RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS**  
35 New Broad Street, London EC2M 1NH  
Tel: 01-588 3588 or 01-588 3576  
Telex No. 887374

A stimulating, demanding appointment in a team development role



### ASSISTANT MANAGER - ADMINISTRATION

CITY OF LONDON

£12,000 - £15,000 + mortgage subsidy  
INTERNATIONAL BANK

This is a new appointment for which we invite applications from numerate candidates, aged 28-34, with at least 4 years' administration experience gained preferably in a bank or financial institution. This must have included supervision and motivation of staff. Wide-ranging responsibilities will include control of premises, embracing leasehold improvements and liaison with sub-tenants, office services/equipment, purchasing and stock control. Emphasis is placed upon the management, through 2 experienced supervisors, of the team of 20+ which includes administration, secretarial and communications staff. A "sleeves rolled up" approach is preferred. The ability to assess priorities, maintain high standards and liaise effectively at all levels is important, as are sense of humour and a flexible attitude. Initial salary negotiable £12,000 - £15,000 + mortgage subsidy, non-contributory pension scheme, free life assurance and free BUPA. Applications in strict confidence, under reference AMA4295/TT, to the Managing Director.

CAMPBELL-JOHNSTON ASSOCIATES (MANAGEMENT RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS), 35 NEW BROAD STREET, LONDON, EC2M 1NH.  
TELEPHONE: 01-588 3588 or 01-588 3576. TELEX: 887374. FAX NO: 01-588 9216.



**BRITISH AIRCRAFT CORPORATION**

**TECHNICAL STUDIES INSTITUTE, ROYAL SAUDI AIR FORCE**

## DHAHRAN

Applications are invited from suitably qualified personnel for the undermentioned Instructor posts at the Technical Studies Institute Dharan.

### WEAPONS CONTROL INSTRUCTORS

Candidates should be graduate Interception Controllers from a Military Training Institute with two years recent instructional experience at a Weapons Control School and a minimum of three years recent operational experience.

A sound knowledge of Primary/Secondary Radars, Air Defence and Interception Techniques, Computer Based Trainers and modern data handling is essential.

**SUITABLY QUALIFIED AND EXPERIENCED PAKISTANI NATIONALS MAY APPLY FOR POSITIONS IN THIS CATEGORY.**

Please write for an application form to:

**MR. R D Pound**  
Principal Personnel Officer  
British Aircraft Corporation Ltd.  
P.O. Box 1732 Riyadh 11441  
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

### REVISOR/TRANSLATOR

The above vacancy exists in the Language Services Branch of LANDSOUTH HQ (NATO) located in Verona, Italy.

#### Essential qualifications

English mother tongue (i.e. irrespective of nationality but must have received formal education in English), and full proficiency in French and Italian.

M.A. Degree in modern languages or in political, diplomatic, literary sciences; must have a minimum of three years' experience in translation and simultaneous and consecutive interpretation.

#### Duties

Revision, translation and interpretation in all three languages.

#### Net Basic Salary

It.L. 2,874,000 monthly plus several allowances.

Please apply in writing not later than 15 November, 1984, enclosing C.V. and photocopies of probatory documents to:

LANDSOUTH HQ  
Civilian Personnel Branch  
Via S. Stefano 25  
37100 VERONA, Italy.

### Borough Technical Officer

£19,050 - £20,958

From 1st April, 1985, on the retirement of the two current Chief Officers, the Council are proposing to set up a combined Technical Services Department comprising established staff of architects, building surveyors, engineers, planners and building control officers, together with a Direct Labour Organisation dealing with civil engineering and building works, and relevant administrative staff. Agency agreements exist for highways and sewerage and for the maintenance of all educational buildings in the Borough.

The Council are therefore seeking applicants of outstanding professional and managerial ability for the Chief Officer post of the new combined Department. The postholder will be a full member of the Chief Officer Group with corporate responsibilities.

The Council offers a generous relocation package including up to £2,500 for legal and professional fees and a disturbance allowance. The post carries an essential user car allowance.

For further details please contact the Chief Executive and Town Clerk, Municipal Buildings, Canterbury Street, Gillingham, Kent ME7 5LA. Telephone: Medway (0854) 50021 Extension 249. Closing date 14th November, 1984.

**Gillingham**  
Borough Council

### Financial Manager/Accountant, West End Consultancy

A rapidly developing group of international technical consultants wishes to recruit a Financial Manager/Accountant to be responsible for all financial and administration matters. Experience of computer-based accounting systems and preparation of management information essential. The successful candidate will work closely with management and should expect to play a key role in the development of the firm.

Applications or enquiries will be treated in strict confidence and should be made in writing to:

**Resource Management International**  
79, Baker Street, London W1M 1AJ

Do you have H.N.D. Business Studies? Are you serious, well presented and hard working? We have several vacancies for H.N.D. Business Studies holders aged 20-22. Work and train to teach foreign businessmen and women to speak English in our Paris and Chester centres. Please send application C.V. and photo to:

**FISHER SCHOOL OF ENGLISH**  
43 AVE DE WAGRAM, 75017 PARIS, FRANCE

## Health Care Professionals

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

King Saud University, Riyadh opened a new campus in September 1984 which has brought its constituent colleges together in Diriyah, 10 miles north-east of Riyadh.

A Health Centre will cater for approximately 20,000 students and will be operated by the University in conjunction with its main teaching hospital, King Khalid University Hospital.

The following staff are required:

### Physicians

General Practice or Family Medicine physicians. 4-5 years' postgraduate experience. Members of Royal College of Physicians or General Practitioners. Prior experience in a Student Health setting desirable.

### ENT and Ophthalmology

Suitably qualified and experienced specialists.

### Dentists

Suitably qualified with 5 years' postgraduate experience.

### Nursing Staff

SRN's with 8 years' experience. Prior experience in a Student Health setting desirable. Previous experience in the Middle East an advantage. Male staff preferred.

### Medical Technologists

AIMLS certification with 2-5 years' experience in a Stat. Lab. or other high volume multidisciplinary laboratory. Experience with Coulter S plus and Dupont ACA highly desirable.

### Pharmacists

Licensed Pharmacists with 3-5 years' in an institutional practice. Bilingual candidates (Arabic/English) preferred.

### Radiology Technologists

Certified radiology technologists with 3-5 years' experience in routine and diagnostic radiology.

### Medical Transcriptionists

Qualified medical transcriptionists with 5 years' experience. Complete medical terminology and training on word processing equipment.

#### Benefits for these posts include:

- \* Competitive tax free salaries based on qualifications and experience
- \* Free furnished accommodation or housing allowance.
- \* Monthly transport allowance (for transportation in lieu).
- \* 45-60 days annual paid leave (depending on level of appointment).
- \* Round trip airline ticket from domicile to Riyadh.
- \* Air freight allowance (for certain appointments).
- \* Terminal gratuity after 2 years' service (increased after 5 years).
- \* Free medical care. \* One year contracts (renewable).

Interested candidates should send full curriculum vitae with supporting documentation to:

Health Centre, Mail Box No 8, King Khalid University Hospital, PO Box 7805, Riyadh, SAUDI ARABIA 11472.

with copy of curriculum vitae only to:  
Mr J Aston, King Saud University Office, 29 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8QB.

Shortlisted candidates only will be notified of interview arrangements.

## Euro/Government Affairs Co-ordinator

Financial services institution  
London to £15,000

A major international institution offering worldwide facilities to the business community is seeking the early appointment of an enterprising, articulate and confident young executive to acquire the skills of a deputy in the Governmental Affairs department.

Broad-ranging activities span the role of the researcher, political analyst and information officer to name but a few, and call for wide interests in European affairs - political, financial and commercial; the ability to travel extensively and open doors throughout the EEC; and to communicate freely at all levels both within

the corporation and with external agencies and governments.

The post could well be attractive to a young man or woman with a good degree who has at least two years' post graduate experience in a commercial environment or professional pupillage who feels constrained by his or her present environment. He or she should speak at least one European language in addition to fluent English and reside in the London area. A salary of up to £15,000 is offered plus certain benefits.

**PA**  
P.A. B. Wynn  
Ref: AA25/8958/TT.

### PA Personnel Services

Hyde Park House, 60a Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7LE.  
Tel: 01-235 6060 Telex: 27874

## HEAD OF NATIONAL MEDICAL SERVICES (U.K.)

££30,000

This new post has been established as part of the restructuring of the Association's senior management.

The successful applicant will be based at the Association's London Headquarters and will be responsible to the Secretary of the Association for the over-seeing of staff servicing the national craft committees and their negotiations, and for strategic planning. A full job description is available on request.

Applicants must be medically qualified and must have experience of negotiating procedures, preferably within the National Health Service. Previous experience of management and budgeting is also required.

The salary (in excess of £30,000) will depend upon qualifications and experience. Terms and conditions include 8 weeks holiday and a contributory pension. A company car is provided.

Applicants should send full details of previous experience etc., to Barbara Dyer, Personnel Manager, British Medical Association, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JP; to arrive no later than 9th November 1984.

The BMA is an equal opportunity employer.



## INVESTMENT CONSULTANT

The successful candidate will have to satisfy our exacting requirements

- ☐ Experienced in Personal Financial Planning
- ☐ Integrity ☐ Excellent References
- ☐ Proven Record ☐ Hard Working & Conscientious
- ☐ Residing near M25 ☐ Age about 30

Income and benefits are those associated with an executive appointment - an early directorship is envisaged. Our business is generated through national advertising and existing clients.

Telephone Donald King to arrange an early appointment on (0279) 506711/6

KING & PARTNERS  
INVESTMENT CONSULTANTS LIMITED  
Corn Exchange, Market Square,  
Bishop's Stortford, Herts CM23 3XE.

**King & Partners**

### DIRECTOR, CONSERVATIVE RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

Applications are invited for the post of Director of the Conservative Research Department (shortly falling vacant when the present Director becomes Special Adviser to the Chancellor of the Exchequer). The Department, which was founded in 1929, provides political and secretariat services to the Leadership and Organisation of the Conservative Party and to the Parliamentary Party. Applicants must be committed to the ideals of the Party. Relevant experience may have been obtained in business, journalism, university work or the public service. Salary and terms will be by negotiation.

Applications with C.V. should be addressed to: The Chairman (D/CRD), Conservative Central Office, 32 Smith Square, London SW1.

### Pickering and Chatto Ltd

International Antiquarian Booksellers

Young, scholarly dealer with some experience wanted to specialise in Economics, Philosophy and Social Sciences. Good and progressive pay.

17 Pall Mall  
London SW1Y 5NE  
01-930 2515

**EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT** with particular knowledge of Computer Operations globally involved in the US Agricultural Organisation in West and Central America. Excellent salary and benefits. Full time position. Please send C.V. to: The Times, 0348 W The Times.

## PROJECT MANAGEMENT PROJECT COMPTROLLERS PLANNING MANAGERS

Opportunity to join an expanding company in the forefront of Project Management Developments

The above senior staff are needed to direct large, prestigious capital projects in the fields of urban transportation and high technology plant construction in Western Europe. The positions are based in London, but will entail some overseas travel.

Candidates should be professionally qualified and have successfully performed similar roles in major multi-disciplinary projects. Remuneration and terms of employment will be attractive to high calibre applicants, and there is the prospect of equity participation.

Please send a brief C.V. or telephone (from 10 a.m. today).

**NICHOLS ASSOCIATES**

7a HOLLAND PARK ROAD, KENSINGTON, LONDON, W14 8NA.  
Telephone: 01-603 1916

### CAMPING AND CARAVANNING CLUB SITES DIRECTOR

To control the Club's extensive site operations in Great Britain including acquisition, development, management (65 directly managed sites at present), and Caravan Site network, temporary holiday sites, promotion, etc.

This is a senior post with commensurate salary. It offers considerable interests and satisfaction and it is most likely to appeal to suitably experienced and qualified applicants aged between 35 and 45.

Candidates with extensive man management and senior administrative experience are invited to apply in writing with their cv to The Secretary General, 11 Lower Grosvenor Place, London SW1W 0EX.



The National Trust requires for Wimborne, Dorset

### Senior Administrator

(Salary range £9,000 - £11,000)

To run grant house, garden and park already attracting over 10,000 visitors per year. Managerial experience is essential.

For job description and application forms, please write, enclosing SAE, to: S. C. Ward, The National Trust, East Anglia Office, Bickling, Norwich NR11 5NF (quoting ref. W3/P). Closing date for completed applications, 16th November, 1984.

### YOUR CV IS THE HEART OF YOUR JOB SEARCH

Because if you, it is your life, your education and career achievements and should be clearly, concisely constructed and well laid out. It must get you that vital first step to the interview. That is why your CV must be professionally written. Just write or phone and you'll receive this information explaining how we can do this for you.

Personal Curriculum Vitae Ltd  
Dept TT 27-278 Pentonville Road  
London N1 9JY  
01-478 2255

### WHITEHEAD MANN Trainee Headhunter

required from £10,000

Whitehead Mann is a leading British-owned international executive search consultancy. Continuing rapid growth demands the appointment of a lively, intelligent, commercially aware, energetic candidate. He/she must be a self-starter, willing to take early responsibility and able to enjoy the pressures of a fast-moving, demanding work environment. Preferred age 25/30, graduate calibre.

Please write or ring with full details either: Wendy Moore or Richard Hewkinson at Whitehead Mann, 44 Welbeck St, London W1M 7EP. Tel: 01-935 8978.

*details*  
**01-222 1607**

## DENTALS

**HOMEOWNERS**  
We specialise in the letting & management of high quality houses in SW & W London areas. If you are worried about letting your home, take advantage of our experience & personal service. We have lived abroad & know the problems.

**HOME FROM HOME**  
Property Management Services Ltd.  
01-946 9447

**FURNISHED LETTINGS**  
**NEGOTIATOR**

## GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

**PHILLIPS KAY & LEWIS**  
REALTORS

**IMMACULATE 6th floor flat new!**  
Seconded in high standard with  
bedroom, 2 bathrooms, large  
ceiling room, kitchen with all  
modern, long balcony. **LONG**  
**HOLLAND PARK W11**  
Superb modern townhouse with  
3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, large  
entrance, garage and roof top  
terraced. **LONG**  
**HYDOL PARK W2**  
Well decorated, 2 bedrooms with  
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## NUM fights alone as Nacods call off strike

Continued from page 1

This lengthy peace formula began with a statement of intent by the Coal Board, submitted personally by Mr MacGregor, that understanding and trust between the Board and Nacods "should be established and maintained".

The Coal Board went on to withdraw its ruling of August 15 that deputies who refused to cross NUM picket lines will not be paid, and to promise that several more Nacods grievances would be dealt with.

The document says that the Board will put the proposed closure of five "test case" pits into a modified colliery review procedure, which would end in a final appeal to an independent body who's verdict would be given "full weight" in any decision on closure proposals.

The NCB also agreed to "completely reconsider" its proposal of March 6 to shut down four million tons of capacity in the industry during the present financial year, "in the light of the loss of output which has occurred as a result of the dispute and the changes in the needs of the market arising from the circumstances of the dispute".

The formula went on: "The Board will reconsider the proposals for the industry and revise the objectives for the individual areas. A new set of objectives will be prepared for each area to reflect the production possibilities available at the time the dispute ends".

But this is not enough for the NUM.

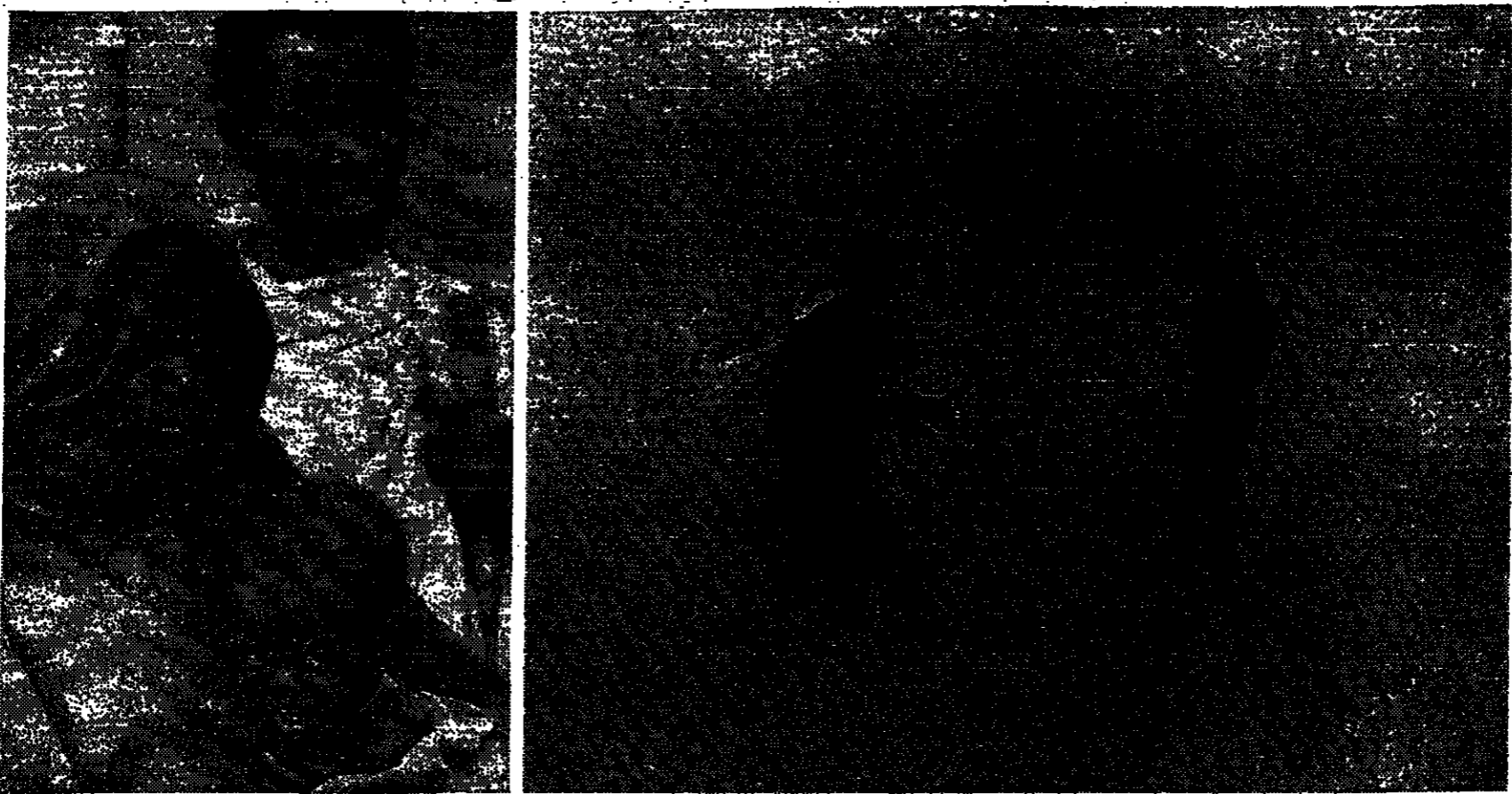
The NUM went on to say of the NCB formula: "It does not withdraw the pit closure programme. Its reference to 'the market' and to a new set of objectives is an indication that the Board will continue to pursue a closure programme".

Mr Scargill last night said on television that he was not optimistic about the chances of success in today's talks with the NCB. There would be "no compromise".

NUM members knew it was going to be a "long, hard and bitter battle", but at the end of the day they would save their pits and their jobs.

A senior Labour Party delegation is to meet the NUM leadership to ensure that money raised to alleviate hardship caused by the strike is not put at risk of sequestration by the courts.

## Ethiopia losing the battle against starvation



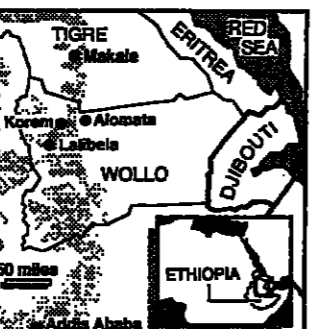
Facing disaster: An Afar cattle herding family (left) whose cattle died looking for grass; and a dust storm, adds to the soil erosion contributing to Ethiopia's drought and famine. Photographs: Mark Edwards

Alomata, Ethiopia (AP) - Dr George Ngetire and seven other medical staff fight a daily battle to keep 100,000 people alive at this famine relief centre in northern Ethiopia. Every day they lose 90 to 100, mostly children.

The people who come here are victims of perhaps the greatest famine in Ethiopia's modern history, caused by a decade-long drought and complicated by two secessionist wars in the north.

Ethiopia's Marxist Government estimates the drought has affected life for 7.7 million people in this country of 33 million, forcing 2.2 million from their homes and threatening 5.5 million with starvation.

Every day hundreds more arrive at this recently established camp along the border of



Tigre and Wollo provinces. Last week, north-east of Alomata, Tigre rebels claimed the capture of the town of Lalibela.

Reporters who visited the Alomata camp, north of the capital of Addis Ababa, found Dr Ngetire, one other doctor, three nurses and three nutritionists working with 100,000 starving people. Further north, thousands more huddle at another emergency relief camp at Korem.

Dr Ngetire, a Kenyan, said at least half the victims were children. This day the doctor had turned away a group of mothers and their frail, emaciated babies - victims of pneumonia, scabies, relapsing fever and starvation.

"I'm sorry," he told them, speaking through an interpreter. He had no food or medicine for the new arrivals.

With more than 90,000 waiting outside the camp, he had supplies for only 3,000. "There is nothing I can do. I know your children need treatment. I have to treat them, but I have nothing to treat them with. Come back in five days."

As the interpreter translated into Amharic, Dr Ngetire held up the extended fingers of one hand to indicate five.

Those turned away would have to wait out in the open.

During the day, tropical sun pushes temperatures to 100 deg F. At night, at this elevation of 12,000 feet, temperatures fall to below 50 deg F. Most of the displaced people have thin, worn sheets and ragged clothing to keep themselves warm.

Those accepted inside the camp run by World Vision International must leave at night - even the 100 or so patients on intravenous drips. Ethiopian officials said they risked attack by the rebels if the patients remained inside the camp.

About 80,000 people are

camped outside Makale, north of Korem.

At Korem, relief agencies are feeding nearly 17,000 children daily, a French medical coordinator said. There were at least another 200,000 famine victims within a 200-mile radius of the camp, although all estimates are really guesses.

The Ethiopian Government has said it needs 600,000 metric tons of food by the end of 1985, and has criticized Western nations and agencies for pledging only 160,000 tons so far.

World Vision International, a US based interdenominational relief group, is the only agency at work at Alomata. At the Korem camp, Catholic relief services, Ethiopia's Relief and Rehabilitation Commission and other groups have had more time to organize relief efforts.

But even at Korem there was not enough food to go around. A reporter who visited Korem in March found 10,000 people going hungry. In late October there were up to 100,000.

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## British aid for famine victims

Continued from page 1

film editors at Thames Television. After representations from Oxfam and the Save the Children Fund, they agreed to screen a TV Eye documentary entitled *Butter Harvest* about the famine in Ethiopia tonight as originally scheduled.

At today's talks in Brussels with officials from the European Commission, the Disasters Emergency Committee, which groups five British charities, will ask for funds to buy vehicles to transport food from Ethiopian ports across rugged terrain into the interior.

A spokesman for Christian Aid said that one of the main

problems confronting the relief agencies was the high cost and shortage of transport.

Pressure for increased aid has also come from the Ethiopian Government. Earlier this week Mr Ato Ayalew Wolde-Giorgis, the Ethiopian Ambassador in London, was told by Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, that any such request would be treated sympathetically.

Mr Rifkind told Parliament on Monday that some 15,000 tons of wheat was on its way to Ethiopia - 10,000 tons from Oxfam, 4,000 tons from the Overseas Development Administration and 1,000 tons

from British farmers. During the current year, the British Government has contributed a total of 20,000 tons of wheat and the EEC some 100,000 tons.

Meanwhile, schoolchildren, shocked and upset by the film of starvation in Ethiopia yesterday donated a ton of grain. It will come from Sheffield's Whitlow Hall farm, a charitable trust regularly used by city children for educational and therapeutic purposes.

After seeing the film, dozens of children contacted the farm asking that part of the harvest they helped to produce should be sent to help famine relief.

## Frank Johnson on the campaign trail

### Beef sandwiches and Huggy Bear

President Reagan, after his escape from serious injury when debating foreign affairs with Mr Mondale, took off from Kansas City in a westerly direction.

His deliverance on Sunday night had given him renewed confidence. His genial old head was as stuffed as ever with quips, sentimental anecdotes, half-remembered items from "Fancy That" or "Would Ya Believe It" columns of long ago that jointly constitute his personal research staff. And who could really prove that these sources are less reliable than the think tanks and task forces favoured by more orthodox, less successful politicians?

So it was a buoyant President who set out in Air Force one to ensure the victory which, after Sunday, seems ever more likely to be his. In the steering class we of the press. Our less genial heads were stuffed with advance extracts from the President's speeches, hot beef sandwiches, chocolate bars, McDonald's McMuffins and unlimited supplies of beer. Three hours out from Kansas City we were in southern California.

The one building in sight was a vast hangar containing a B1 bomber and, more to the point, the several thousand voters who were building it. Mr Reagan descended, looked at the machine lovingly, and inserted early into his speech a cry of "What an airplane!"

A visit to a factory making a B1 bomber appeared to be Mr Reagan's sentimental occasion comparable to a visit which a British Labour leader might make to a coalmine or a factory making wheelchairs.

Mr Reagan reminded his audience that Mr Mondale had been against the B1 bomber. Mission accomplished, he flew off to San Diego. We followed at a discreet distance. Thirty minutes, one beef sandwich and several beers later, we found ourselves amid the sun, palm trees and Spanish terraces of that city's seafront.

Mr Reagan was greeted on arrival with a blast from a ship's horn and, on departure, with fireworks especially designed for daylight.

Off he went northwards. For us, a further egg McMuffin, more beer.

We reached the chillier air

of Medford, Oregon, a small town set in a hollow among magnificently forested hills. A high school band blared wonderfully in operatic uniform.

Mr Reagan said, among other things, that Mr Mondale wanted it to be April 15th every day, but he favoured July 4th. The crowd roared. The chairman said that he would like Mr Reagan to receive a special hug from the Medford town mascot, known as Huggy Bear.

The bear appeared and hugged the President. A tremor doubtless went through the Secret Service. It is to be assumed that the bear was a human in disguise. Mr Reagan remained calm.

The crowd chanted: "Four more years, four more years". On to Portland, Oregon, and a short night's sleep. The following morning we were bussed to the University of Portland. The high school band blared wonderfully. Mr Reagan referred to Mr Mondale and April 15th. The crowd roared. Mr Reagan was beginning to like this line.

On to an ice hockey rink in Seattle, Washington. An even more wonderful band. Further balloons. April 15th contrasted with July 4th. A crowd roaring "Four more years, four more years".

Among the jaded press corps, it was more a matter of four more sneers or, once back on the aircraft, four more beers. Those of us new to this campaign, however, found it all entrancing. Mr Reagan seemed popular among all ages and all classes.

Against such popularity, he has luck. At one point during the day came bad news about one of his most telling lines in Sunday's debate.

He had knocked Mr Mondale for trying to give an impression of strength by being depicted aboard the aircraft carrier Nimitz. But, if Mr Mondale had had his way, he would have been standing in the sea, because he had voted against the Nimitz.

Now word came that Mr Mondale had been standing aboard the Midway. Mr Reagan had not known that. More to the point, for purposes of rebuttal during the debate, neither had Mr Mondale.

## THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

### Today's events

#### Royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh chairs the first meeting of the National Federation of Housing Associations inquiry into British housing: Buckingham Palace, 10.30.

The Duke of Gloucester, President, British Consultants Bureau attends a meeting at the RAF Club, Piccadilly, W1, 10.35.

The Duchess of Gloucester, Patron, Council and Care for the Elderly, attends a reception at Christies, South Kensington, 6.30.

The Duke of Kent attends the British International Motor Show, Birmingham, 10.30; and later opens

the West Midlands Sports Centre for the Disabled at Coventry, 2.30.

Prince Michael of Kent visits RAF Farnborough, 10.15.

New exhibitions

International peace poster exhibition, Central Library, Wellingborough, 10.30 to 5.30; from 9.30 to 5.30; (from 10.30 to 5.30).

Paintings and drawings by Peter Greenham: Victoria Art Gallery, Bridge St, Bath: Mon to Fri 10 to 6, Sat 10 to 5; (ends Nov 24).

Paintings and graphics by Emil Nolde: and prints, drawings and books by John Cage: Kettle's Yard Gallery, Northampton St, Cambridge, Tues to Sat 12.30 to 5.30, Sun 2 to 5.30; (both end Dec 2).

Small paintings and large monotypes by Stephen Buckley: Festival Gallery, Pierpoint Place, Bath: Tues to Sat 11 to 5; (ends Nov 17).

Music

Recital by Linda Merrick (clarinet), Steven Page (harmonica) and Andrew Wilson (piano): Royal Exchange Theatre, St Ann's Sq, Manchester, 1.05.

Concert by the Edinburgh Quartet: Queen's Hall, Edinburgh, 6.45.

Concert by Richard May (cello) and the Warwickshire County Youth Orchestra: Royal Spa Centre, Leamington, 7.30.

Concert by the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra: Birmingham Town Hall, 7.30.

Piano recital by John Savory: Guildhall, Derby, 12.45.

Concert by the Albion Ensemble: St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, 1.

Talks, lectures

William Turner of Oxford (1789-1862), by Timothy Wilcox: Lecture Hall, Ammanford Schools, High Street, Oxford, 4.45.

Academic Follies by Prof Laurie Taylor: Bennett Lecture Theatre 1, Leicester University, 8.

One Man's Strand, by Hamish Brown: Highland Hotel, Fort William, 7.30.

The Golden Age of Screen Comedies by John Huxtable: Lecture Theatre, Bolton Central Library, 7.30.

General

Antique Fair: Assembly Rooms, Bath: 11 to 5 daily, Sat 11 to 6; (ends Oct 27).

Autumn Fair: Liverpool Parish Church, St Nicholas, Pier Head, 10.30 to 5.

Aid for Ethiopia

Contributions for the Ethiopian famine relief should be sent to: Oxfam at 274 Banbury Road, Oxford OX2 7DZ; Save the Children Fund, 17 Grove Lane, London SE5 8RD; or Christian Aid, P.O. Box 1, London SW9 9BB.

Anniversaries

Births: Thomas Babington Macaulay, 1st Baron Macaulay, 1800; Johann Strauss, composer of *Die Fledermaus*, Vienna, 1825; Georges Bizet, Paris, 1838; Pablo Picasso, Málaga, Spain, 1881.

Deaths: Stephen, King of England 1135-54; Dover, 1154; Geoffrey Chaucer, London, 1400; Evangelista Torricelli, inventor of the barometer, Florence, 1647; George II, reigned 1727-60, London, 1760; Sir Charles Hallé, founder of the orchestra of that name, Manchester, 1893; Edward John Pakenham, 18th Baron of Dunsany, writer, Dublin, 1957.

### New books - paperbacks

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:

FICTION

*Dead Babies*, by Martin Amis (Penguin, £1.95)

*Galathea Cove and Cinnamon*, by Jorge Amado (Abacus, £3.95)

*The Slow Train to Milan*, by Lisa St Aubin de Teran (Penguin, £2.95)

NON-FICTION

*On Inequality*, by Jean-Jacques Rousseau, translated with an introduction and notes by Maurice Cranston (Penguin Classics, £1.95)

*Music Through the Looking Glass*, by Fritz Spiegel (Routledge & Kegan Paul, £2.95)

*Papers from the Goncourt Journal*, edited, translated and introduced by Robert Baldick (Penguin, £4.95)

*The Penguin Book of Lincolns*, compiled and edited by E O Parrott (Penguin, £2.95)

*Virgil's Aeneid*, an Essay on Epic Narrative, by K W Gransden (Cambridge, £7.95)

*The Life of Vita Sackville-West*, by Victoria Glendinning (Penguin, £3.95)

PH

Roads

The Midlands: A43: Bypass construction between Northampton and Kettering at Broughton, A435: Between Birmingham and Evesham, M42: construction work near Wythall, M5: Lane closures between junction 3 (Birmingham) and Central to 4 (Bromsgrove).

Wales and West: A48: Lane closures, 24 hours between Cardiff and Newport at Cleppa Park on east and westbound carriageways. A498: Only one lane with 24 hr traffic lights on Menai Bridge, Gwynedd.

The North: M6: Resurfacing work on southbound carriageway between junction 32 (Preston) and 33 (Lancaster); contraflow on northbound lanes 1 and 2; Severe delays on Tyne Bridge.

Scotland: A1: Bypass construction W of Tranent, M9: Eastbound carriageway closed between junctions 2 and 3, contraflow on westbound; no eastbound access at junction 5 (Glasgow), M876: Contraflow between M80, junction 3 and junction 2.

Information supplied by the AA

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## Weather forecast

A vigorous depression off the E coast of Scotland will move NE towards Norway; a strong NW flow will cover most areas.

6am to midnight

London, East Angles, E Midlands, E England: Sunny periods, scattered showers; wind SW veering NW moderate or fresh; max temp 13C (55F).

SE, central S, SW England, W Midlands, S Wales: Showers, sunny intervals; wind NW fresh or strong; max temp 13C (55F).

Channel Islands: Rather cloudy, showers or longer periods of rain; wind veering NW moderate or fresh; max temp 13C (55F).

N Wales, NW, central N England, late of Mon, Northern Ireland: Showers, sunny intervals; wind NW fresh or strong, but gale at first; max temp 14C (57F).

Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll: Rain, heavy at times; hill and coastal fog becoming, brighter but showery later; wind NW strong, locally gale, perhaps severe gale, moderating later; max temp 12C (54F).

NE England, E Borders, Edinburgh, SE Scotland: Dull with rain, heavy at times; wind NW strong, locally gale, perhaps severe gale, moderating later; max temp 12C (54F).

Outlook: for tomorrow and Saturday: Sunny intervals and showers, dying out, rain spreading to N and W later; windy at first; temperatures near or rather below normal.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea: Wind fresh or strong; showers; visibility mainly good; sea moderate or rough. Strait of Dover: Wind fresh or strong; visibility mainly good; sea very rough.

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### High tides

NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars (FRONTS from 0000 GMT on 25 October)

London Bridge 2.55, 7.5, 3.08, 7.5

Abbeystead 2.55, 7.5, 3.08, 7.5

Belfast 2.55, 7.5, 3.08, 7.5

Belfast 2.55, 7.5, 3.08, 7.5